Wednesday, December 19, 2012 | Issue number: 537 | www.mk-news.co.uk | £1 where sold

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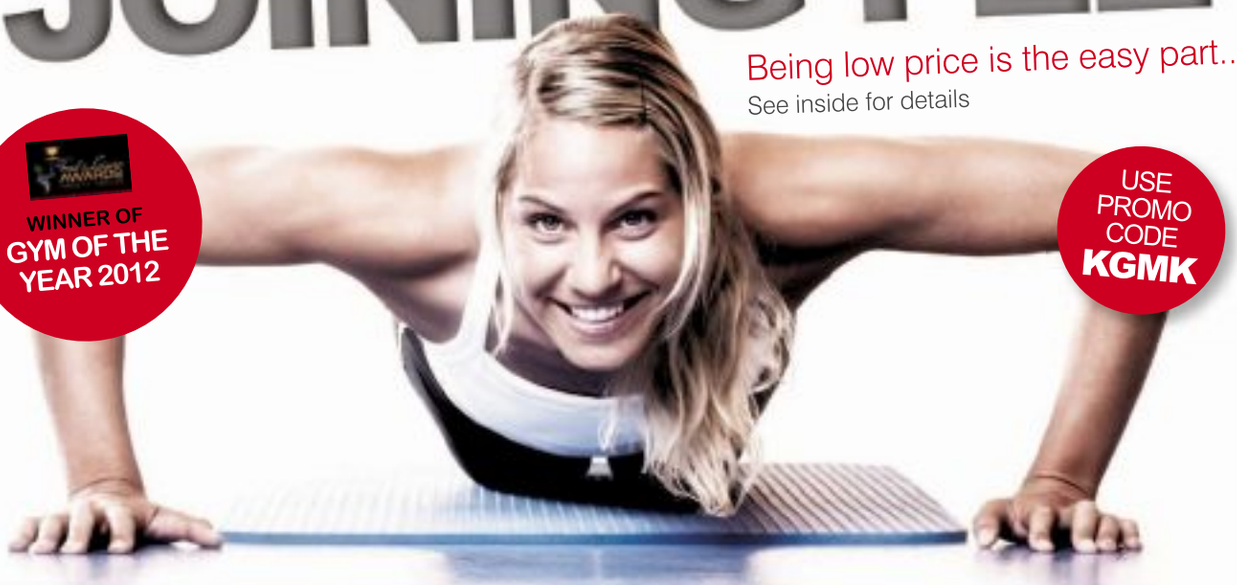

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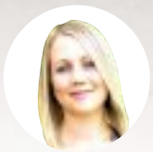

Emma Ford

Qualifications

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Emma believes the key to success is determination and dedication. Emma played football for Arsenal Ladies for 7 years and has gained several caps for England Ladies. Emma then played for MK Dons Ladies for 3 years.

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Ales Parez

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- National Strength and Conditioning Association Personal trainer
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Specialties

Ales has been involved in athletics since the age of 4. He worked his way up to receiving an athletic scholarship at Wyoming Seminary School (Philadelphia) and University of Alaska-Anchorage and he came to England under a professional contract from the MK Lighting ice hockey club. Ales has been collecting health & fitness knowledge throughout his professional journey and now works with athletes and general public to help them achieve their health & fitness goals.

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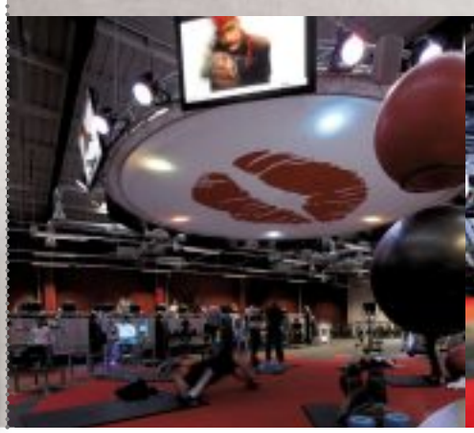

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MK NEWS

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MK DONS

Dons Player of the Month revealed

SEE **PAGE 8**

Happy Xmas & happy viewing!

FREE TV GUIDE **PAGES 17-36**

X Factor winner meets city fans

X FACTOR winner and future musical star James Arthur attracted more than 500 adoring fans to the city centre yesterday.

The 24-year-old appeared at WH Smith in thecentre:mk to sign copies of his new book, My Story, after winning the TV talent show two weeks ago.

Tickets for 500 people were given out to fans wanting to meet the singer, but it is thought many more turned up, with queues reaching out of the store to the market.

Some fans queued for more than four hours, with some travelling from as far away as Cardiff.

The fans sang renditions of his new single Impossible, which is favourite for this weekend's Christmas number one spot.

Council backs 2015 Rugby World Cup bid

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

MK COUNCIL has pledged £135,000 to help the city's bid to be a host for the Rugby World Cup which comes to England in 2015.

The stadiummk, which hopes to stage games during the competition, presented an official bid to governing body England Rugby 2015 last Tuesday. A decision on which cities and stadiums are successful will be made in the spring of next year.

And MK NEWS can reveal Milton Keynes Council has pledged £135,000 towards holding the event, as part of its budget plans drawn up last month.

The local authority has put aside £45,000 each year, for the next three years, to help pay for project management and event costs – including road closures and licensing.

The councillor in charge of the budget Edith Bald said: "The council is expected to put a bit of money in or we don't get the funding from elsewhere.

"It would be a massive benefit to Milton Keynes – we would get much more than £135,000 from it."

It is estimated the competition could generate around £1million per game with a minimum of three games if the bid is successful.

MK Dons chairman Pete Winkelman is optimistic about the bid although MK is up against 16 other venues.

He told MK NEWS: "I'm confident, but I don't want to be over-confident. But we have one of the best stadiums in the country."

Dons director John Cove has been leading the stadium's bid, and he said the event would bring benefits to the stadium and an economic boost to the city and help create a sporting legacy for the community.

For more on this story, and to read full interviews with both Pete Winkelman and John Cove's, visit www.mk-news.co.uk.

Two arrested in takeaway staff checks

TWO people have been arrested following a UK Border Agency immigration raid on a takeaway in Bletchley.

Acting on intelligence, officers visited Tasty Fried Chicken on Queensway at around 2.30pm on Tuesday, December 11, where they carried out checks on staff to see if they had the right to work in the UK.

They arrested two men, a 31-year-old Pakistani national who had previously had his student visa cancelled for failing to attend college and a 24-year-old Bangladeshi who had overstayed his visa.

Both were detained pending their removal from the UK.

Tasty Fried Chicken could now be fined up to £20,000 – £10,000 per illegal worker – unless it can prove to the UK Border Agency that the correct right-to-work checks were carried out on the men.

Assistant director Paul Smith, from the UK Border Agency, said: "Our enforcement teams are out almost every day carrying out operations like this and where we find someone who is in the UK illegally we will seek to remove them.

"But we are also targeting employers who take on illegal workers. They are both fuelling illegal immigration and damaging the majority of legitimate businesses who play by the rules.

"This is why we have the power to hit those who break the law with heavy fines."

Every year, the UK Border Agency imposes civil penalties on hundreds of companies which fail to carry out proper right-to-work checks on staff.

Employers unsure of the steps they need to take to avoid employing illegal workers can visit www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/advice-for-employers or call 0300 123 4699.

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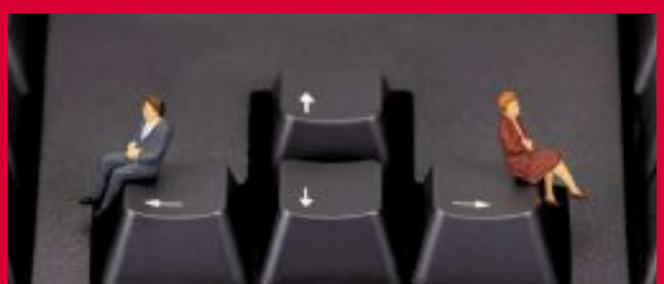

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Nampak's tree is cream of crop

WHEN MK NEWS asked to see your Christmas tree pictures on Twitter we were inundated with examples of your special spruces.

But our favourite was the one that is currently on display in the reception area at Nampak Plastics in Newport Pagnell.

Because this is no ordinary tree. The staff constructed this one from milk bottles.

In total the 'tree', which is 100 per cent recyclable, consists of 259 plastic HDPE bottles which are made by the company. Each layer has a different product on. The tree took around a day to put together and then a couple of hours to decorate.

The concept and design to build the tree came from employee Peter Rodwell, and was originally designed to feature on the front of the company's Message In A Bottle magazine.

A company spokesman said: "What better than to use our own products to develop something that symbolises Christmas, but also allows our staff to come together and contribute.

"We want to try and encourage more of this, maybe even setting a challenge for local schools to design something using our bottles."

Milking it: Nampak's Peter Rodwell, who came up with the idea of a Christmas tree made from milk bottles

Turing pardon backed by Stephen Hawking

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

PROFESSOR Stephen Hawking last week backed the campaign for a pardon for Bletchley Park codebreaker Alan Turing.

In an open letter sent to a national newspaper on Friday, Professor Hawking and other leading scientists, as well as a number of politicians, called on Prime Minister David Cameron to 'formally forgive' Turing.

The letter, which includes other signatories such as Astronomer Royal Lord Rees and former Bletchley Park employee Baroness Trumpington, says: "We urge the Prime Minister to exercise his authority and formally forgive the iconic British hero."

A private members bill has been drafted and submitted by Lib Dem peer Lord Sharkey which, if eventually passed, would see a pardon for Alan Turing alone.

Milton Keynes South MP Iain Stewart is one of those who has been tirelessly campaigning for a pardon for Turing, who was convicted for being homosexual in 1952 when it was still illegal.

Mr Stewart, who made an appearance on BBC1's Newsnight programme on Friday to talk about the issue, said: "I have long campaigned for Alan Turing to be pardoned. I believe that it is a fitting tribute to pardon him in the centenary year of his birth.

"Our country owes a huge debt of gratitude to him and I hope that Lord Sharkey's Private Members Bill can complete its passage through the Lords and be considered by the Commons."

Turing was instrumental in cracking German Enigma codes during the Second World War, but despite this was convicted and underwent a course of oestrogen injections as a form of 'chemical castration'. In 1954 he killed himself by taking cyanide.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Earrings stolen

CROOKS made off with a pair of diamond earrings after forcing open a kitchen window at a home in Frithwood Crescent, Kents Hill, between 8am-7pm on Friday, December 7. The earrings are diamond-studded, set in gold with a cream pearl drop. Anyone with information should call PC Jade Trower on 101.

Car park award

MIDSUMMER Place Shopping Centre's multi-storey car park has been granted the Park Mark Safer Parking Award for the eighth year running. The award is given to parking facilities that have achieved the requirements of a risk assessment conducted by the police and the British Parking Association.

Six months jail for affray man

A MAN has been jailed for six months for affray following an assault on two people.

Steven Hillyar, 30, from Willey Court, Galley Hill, pleaded guilty on November 30 at Aylesbury Crown Court after assaulting a 31-year-old woman and a man, 34.

The attack took place on November 19 last year outside an address in Shearmans, Fullers Slade.

DC John Swallow, investigating officer, said: "This was a nasty attack on a female who had a crown court restraining order against the defendant.

"She was knocked unconscious and so I am pleased for the victim that justice has been done."

Youth unemployment falls a third

FIGURES show that youth unemployment in the city has fallen by just under a third since November of last year.

The data from the Office of National Statistics shows a drop of 32.7 per cent in the number of people aged 18-24 who are claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA).

The total number of JSA claimants for the city also dropped by 15.2 per cent compared with this time last year.

MP for Milton Keynes South Iain Stewart is pleased, but says there is room for improvement.

Snowman: Cinderella ugly sister John Barr frolics inside Xscape's giant snow globe in one of his costumes

Ugly sister Pixie has a (snow)ball

UGLY sister Pixie from MK Theatre's pantomime Cinderella visited Xscape's giant snow globe on Monday – dressed as a snowman.

Actor John Barr returns to MK panto after playing Widow Twankey in last year's Aladdin, and the snowman gown is one of nine costumes he wears during the show.

John said: "It takes an entire hour to put on all the make-up and I have to stay in costume between the matinee and evening performances. It's hard work but great fun and working with Louie Spence is hysterical as you never know what you're going to get!"

The giant inflated snow globe is part of Xscape's Christmas Grotto.

Cinderella is at Milton Keynes Theatre until January 6. To buy tickets visit www.atgtickets.com.

Families helping hospital improve

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

IMPROVEMENTS costing £1.5million are being made at Milton Keynes Hospital after talks with parents of three children who died there.

Following the inquest into the death of 13-month-old Mia Elcock from a cardiac arrest in 2011, the coroner ordered a report from the hospital into the care it gives children.

In that report, sent to the coroner yesterday, the hospital says it has been meeting with Mia's parents and those of five-year-old Harry Mould, who died in 2009, and 13-month-old Calvin Prentice-Aucock who also died of a cardiac arrest in 2010.

In a statement medical director Martin Wetherill said: "Listening to these families has given us an invaluable insight into their individual experiences.

"We are very grateful to these families for working with us."

In its report the hospital says it has made 'significant improvements to its paediatric services' since Mia's death.

These improvements were in the planning stage but had not been implemented at the time Mia was admitted, but the hospital says they make a significant difference to families now.

Mr Wetherill says an additional £1.5million will be spent this year.

"As well as changes already made, this money is funding opening paediatric A&E 24/7 from January 2013; opening the Paediatric Assessment Unit all year round; additional medical staff over the winter period; a further six inpatient beds and more nursing and medical staff to deal with the unprecedented number of attendances and admissions, which has seen an increase of 15 to 20 per cent against last year," he said.

More at www.mk-news.co.uk.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

School choirs at centre

SCHOOL choirs from across Milton Keynes will be entertaining shoppers at Midsummer Place in the run up to Christmas Day. The Webber Independent School kicked off the festivities on Friday, with their choir of all ages. For a full list of the performances see www.midsummerplace.co.uk.

Charity buys building

GRANT-giving charity MK Community Foundation has bought Midsummer House in CMK, the sister building of the charity's headquarters at Acorn House. Improvement work will be carried out on the building in the spring, which the charity says will allow it to 'further its charitable objectives'.

'Sex for student fees' city arrest

A MAN was last week arrested in Milton Keynes on suspicion of incitement to cause prostitution.

Met police officers from London arrested the 39-year-old at a city address on Wednesday.

"The arrest was in connection with an investigation into allegations over a website which encourages students to provide sexual services in exchange for money towards their student fees," a spokesman said.

"Officers from SCO9 Trafficking and Prostitution Unit are investigating.

"The man was taken to a police station in Milton Keynes and bailed to return to a London police station in February 2013."

8-strong gang robs woman

A GROUP of about eight people robbed a 24-year-old woman of cigarettes and her mobile phone on Sunday, December 9.

The incident happened at about 10.30pm when the victim was walking from the Middleton area towards the shops at Broughton, crossing the overbridge that leads across Tanfield Lane. As she walked past the group someone grabbed her by the hair before searching her. She was not hurt.

The main offender was a white, blonde female, 5ft 2in. Anyone with information should call 101.

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Office open 9am-5.30pm or by appointment.
Published and originated by LSN Media Ltd
Printed by Iliffe Print in Cambridge

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Letters to The Editor, MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes MK15 0DU | letters@mk-news.co.uk

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In or out of Europe is a big decision for us

SIR – As somebody who campaigned against the Common Market in the 1975 referendum, I welcome the fact that MK NEWS is giving space to the important issue of Britain's future, in or out of the European Union.

However, we must not cloud the real issues. The EU was set-up after WW2 to rebuild Europe, but with all the big companies in control. So there was never a possibility of a Soviet Socialist Europe, as Cllr Don Hoyle is worried about. It was and still is run by banks and big companies; just look at Italy and Greece.

John Baker (MK LETTERS, December 5), relates how his company exports goods to the USA and Canada. This is the real dividing line. European companies rival US companies for world markets. It becomes even more serious when one considers that the EU is attempting to form a military bloc, with a 6,000-mile radius that stretches to the Middle East. This can only be for military interventions to control natural resources such as oil. But NATO is already in force in the Middle East. An alarming scenario appears to be unfolding. Therefore the European dilemma, facing the Conservative Party is looming larger, as time passes. Even within the EU companies and banks are continually taking each other over. At the same time trade unions have won concessions from employers on working time, holidays and health and safety legislation. So this dynamic, with the current austerity and cutbacks, shows no sign of easing.

It is astonishing that Cllr Lee Barney blames the last Labour government for getting us into the present mess. He forgets that the banks speculated badly, created the mess and Labour bailed them out with our taxes. Would he, and the Conservatives, have allowed the banks to go bust? We all know the answer to that.

So, in or out of the European Union? I'm not sure, but I hope to be when I vote.

John Pinkerton
Woodhouse Court

Thames Valley Air Ambulance mascot, Paramedic Bob, visits children at MK Hospital with Santa and Elf (Laura Nicholas, fund raising manager).

People need to be accountable in MK

SIR – I think it is appalling that Campbell Park is slowly being concreted over.

Twenty five years ago that area was designated as recreational and now it seems to be a free-for-all with council officials and developers.

Before we know it the area will look just like any other estate in MK. We should all be up in arms at what is happening to a beautiful town park, because that is what it is, a PARK. Can you imagine if housing or offices were erected on Hampstead Heath , Richmond Park or Hyde Park? The local people would be up in arms.

All too often these plans are implemented by people who don't live here, and consequently don't have to live with their mistakes.

The new roundabout system near the M1 interchange on Child's Way is a prime example. I have come through there in the early hours and had to stop at traffic lights when there isn't another vehicle in sight for miles!

So many infrastructure plans were put in place by people who don't live here, and never see the mess that they leave behind. Many plans such as the road across Willen Lake were carried out despite the thousands of signatures on a petition.

We now have the debacle in Secklow Gate which many people are not in favour of, especially the market traders.

Isn't it about time that these officials, who are earning fat salaries from us, have as a stipulation of their tenure that they must reside in or near MK. And isn't it about time that the elected officials actually took notice of what the residents want. By the time these people are voted out the damage has been done.

Liz Green
Clerkenwell Place

We have to stop the squeeze on the poor

SIR – The Coalition Government's cuts in funding for council tax support is creating a huge financial challenge for our MK Council (MK NEWS December 5).

We are now seeing the direct effect in Milton Keynes of the Government's austerity measures which, in two years, have already increased unemployment, increased poverty, increased under-employment and the number of business failures.

Their latest decision, announced in the Autumn Statement, to squeeze the incomes of the poorest by limiting the increase in working-age benefits to only 1per cent for three years starting in April, represents a callous attack on the most vulnerable.

While the tax dodgers and the bankers fill their pockets, the poor are required to make the biggest sacrifice.

Sadly, unless the Government changes its policies, the only growth that people in Milton Keynes will see over the next few years will be in the queues at soup kitchens and food banks in our city.

Dave Brunwin
Stony Stratford

Talk is easy, we need action in Stantonbury

SIR – I wonder if someone can tell the residents of Stantonbury why our local centre has been left derelict.

In all of the 40 years I have lived on Stantonbury, I have never seen this estate left in such a bad state.

We have nothing on here at all, no supermarket, no decent community centre and I don't mean any thing that goes on at the church. I mean actually on this estate.

It seems that nobody wants to do anything positive on here other than hold meetings and talk. Talk is easy, action takes courage.

Grace Quinn
Stantonbury

Your views on Primark at MK1

A selection of your comments from www.mk-news.co.uk

It's a shop. What's the big deal??? Surely there are more important issues in Milton Keynes than the opening of a new department store...
Simon

What a brilliant store! Fab layout, fab changing rooms, lots of tills & great staff. Well done.
Rosie

Yes, I was 5th in the queue after getting there for 8am after freezing for an hour. I was so glad to get in the store to see how lovely it was. So many great items and value for money and service was excellent. I will be popping in daily instead of the usual trek to Bedford. So I say well done Primark.
Liz

I got up early to go, exciting!
Katy Jones

One thing is that the traffic has been a lot busier around the stadium since the new Primark opened. But if it's providing jobs that's a small price to pay I reckon.
Colin

THE RECYCLED PAPER CONTENT OF UK NEWSPAPERS IN 2011 WAS 78.9 PER CENT

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Help keep oldest computer running

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

DO YOU want the chance of being involved in helping to keep the world's oldest surviving computer working?

The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC), at Bletchley Park, needs your help to ensure the oldest computer in the world is kept working as history intended, for future generations to enjoy.

The team wants you to hunt in the back of cupboards, attics, workshops and your sheds, for old fashioned glass valves.

Technicians may then be able to use them in the operation of the Harwell Dekatron, also known as the WITCH.

It was made in 1951 and uses 828 electric vacuum valves, which act as an early form of RAM for storage. The valves look a little like light bulbs and even glow when working.

Chris Monk, TNMOC learning co-ordinator, said: "If a valve breaks and we don't have a replacement, none of it will work.

"It may come to a time when we have to start replacing them with modern technology, but we want to hold off for as long as possible.

WITCH hunt: Chris Monk needs your help to find old valves like these, so that the world's oldest running computer can be kept working

"I want to see the children learning about the older generations, and for them to see this stuff working."

While these specific valves still exist, TNMOC is asking people to search their attics to see if they have any that it is looking for. They are most likely to be found in the collections of radio enthusiasts.

Kevin Murrell, a trustee of TNMOC said: "The museum has supplies of valves for the Colossus rebuild and the WITCH, and with careful handling they are expected to last for quite some time yet.

"However, we do need to build up a reserve to ensure that these machines can be kept running for as long as possible to inspire future generations of computer scientists and engineers."

The valves that The National Museum Of Computing is seeking are fully listed on www.mk-news.co.uk. If you can help, please e-mail donations@tnmoc.org.

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Card winners: (from left) Iain Stewart, Candy, Anthony Spira from the MK Gallery, Athayan and Mark Lancaster

Christmas winners honoured by MPs

THE city's MPs have thanked the creative school pupils who have designed their Christmas cards this year.

Athavan Thanabalasingam won the prize for Milton Keynes North, Mark Lancaster's constituency, and Candy Amefiamu was chosen from Iain Stewart's Milton Keynes South.

Pupils in years five and six from across MK were asked to submit their designs, and MK NEWS and MK Gallery chose the winners from hundreds of entries.

City continues as economic leader

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THE city's reputation as an economic powerhouse has been further boosted by a new report – the second in just over a month which sings the city's economic praises.

Research conducted by information services company Experian looked at 150 locations in the UK using key economic indicators, including employment, to predict which city has the best potential for residential, retail and commercial property growth between 2013 and 2017.

It found MK is ranked third in the country for retail property growth, and number one outside of the M25, and MK is ranked fifth in the country and second outside of London for office property growth.

The city ranks fifth overall in the UK for its 'real estate viability', just behind London, Edinburgh and Leeds.

This latest news comes hot on the heels of a report from Experian last month showing Milton Keynes is leading the way in the UK's economic recovery, for both employment and output growth.

The five-year forecasts showed Milton Keynes heading a top ten of 'prosperous' towns and cities in terms of growth in jobs, and in the manufacturing, financial and business services, and retail sectors.

Previous research has placed Milton Keynes as 'one to watch' in leading economic recovery, but this is the first time the borough has topped a national list.

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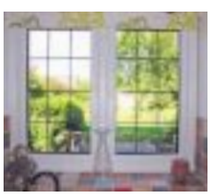

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Managing Director Billy Harley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps.

Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Billy a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Luke named as first Player of the Month

BY DAN PALMER
dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

LUKE Chadwick has been named as the very first MK Dons Player of the Month.

The former Manchester United midfielder was announced as the winner for November ahead of Saturday's 1-0 League One victory over Hartlepool United at stadiummk.

MK NEWS has teamed up with Karl Robinson's promotion chasers to launch the competition, which gives fans the chance to honour the best performing members of the squad each month and win a top prize.

All you have to do to take part is vote in our online poll every month.

It's completely free and one lucky voter will then be selected at random and given the opportunity to present the winning player of the month with a bottle of champagne on the pitch.

In addition, they will also be given two Club Red tickets to the match.

The November winner is season ticket holder Julie Kent, who voted for Chadwick and took her mum along to Club Red.

She said: "It was a really good day, although I was a bit nervous at first.

"I got to walk down the tunnel to the pitch and have a look around, and to use Karl's words I think we were dominant in the game."

Chadwick won November's poll with 37 per cent of the total vote, ahead of Shaun Williams in second place and Adam Chicksen who was third.

He put in a string of fine performances as Dons went the month unbeaten, including four wins from five league outings.

On November 24 he helped himself to a pair of goals in the 5-1 home thrashing of Colchester United.

To vote this month and put yourself in line to win, simply visit www.mk-news.co.uk and click on the Player of the Month box on the right-hand side.

The presentation for December will be made on January 12 when Dons host Bury in League One, and you have until December 30 to cast your vote.

First winner: MK Dons midfielder Luke Chadwick receives a bottle of champagne from season ticket holder and MK NEWS reader Julie Kent

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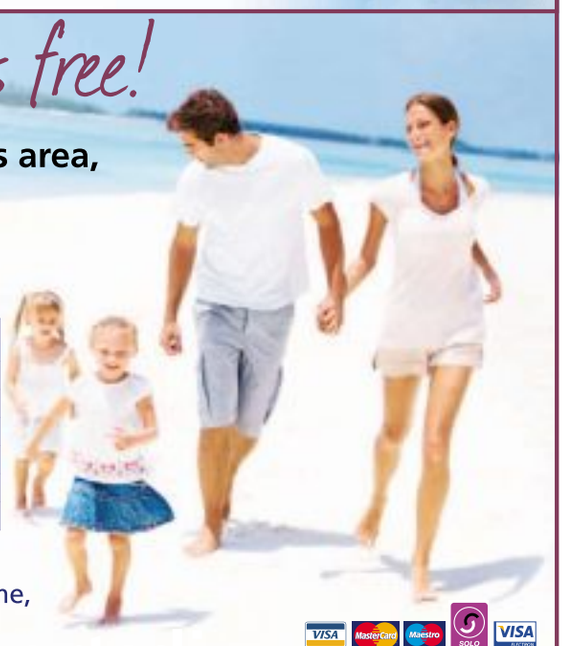

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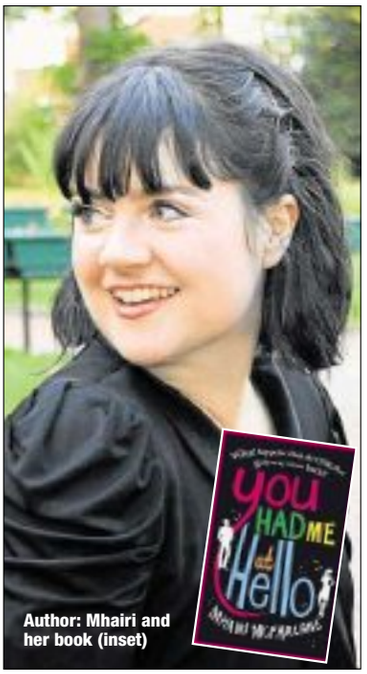
Mhairi's romance novel tops charts



Author: Mhairi and her book (inset)

BY JANE RENTON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

TALENTED new novelist Mhairi McFarlane has topped the Amazon fiction chart with the release of her first book You Had Me At Hello.

A two-book deal with major publisher Harper Collins is "like the most unbelievable joyous con-trick," said the 36-year-old writer, who includes Hollywood star Minnie Driver among her fans.

"I can think up silly ideas and get paid for it like for a proper job."

The former journalist lived in Milton Keynes in the 1980's when her father, Craig McFarlane, lectured in quantum mechanics at the Open University, and she often speaks and tweets about her childhood in the city.

The book is a classic chick lit romance – boy meets girl, boy loses girl, girl finds boy but boy is now married.

It's a story which asks: "What happens when the one that got away comes back?"

It is fun and witty, and it is no wonder that Mhairi has already been talking to screen agent Mark Casarotto about having it turned into "a lovely clever little commercial rom-com."

Mhairi moved to Nottingham after leaving Milton Keynes, where she now lives with her boy-friend and her cat, Mister Miffy. The next book is due in December 2013.

"It's another funny romance, because obvi-ously the publishing com-pany doesn't set you up with an audience and then start selling oranges after apples," she said.

One of the new generation of Twitter-friendly writers, Mhairi's screen agent followed her on the social media site, as did Driver.

"Harper Collins said my Twitter feed is part of my appeal," she said. "I was absolutely amazed.

"My positive comments for the second edition, on the whole they're from Twitter friends."

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Nikki hopes his song will help our heroes

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A RISING singer-songwriter is hoping his new single, I'm Coming Back, will raise £75,000 to support wounded heroes from the armed forces.

Nikki Murray, 28, who lives in Woolstone, has announced he is dedicating his new single to Help For Heroes.

He got the idea for the fundraising song after watching a news report while working in Sweden.

"I was in a hotel room, on my own feeling a bit lonely, when a story came on the news about soldiers who had lost their legs," he said.

"The song is about the soldiers and their relationships with their wives and husbands.

"It's also about the fact that partners of other people don't have to worry about their loved ones not coming home, or coming home with a disability."

Nikki has previously played with Leona Lewis, Celine Dion, James Blunt and even Cheryl Cole.

He then decided to focus on his solo career, writing his debut album which was produced by Grammy-winning producer Stevie B Baughman, who described Nikki as 'one of the most talented singer-songwriters in the UK to date'.

Charity single: Nikki Murray from Woolstone has penned a special song which he is hoping will raise £75,000 for forces charity Help for Heroes

Bryn Parry, CEO and co-founder of the charity, Help for Heroes, said: "Help for Heroes is all about doing your bit.

"Nikki writing this single is another wonderful example of someone in the music industry using their creativity to rally support while they raise money for a wonderful cause.

"It's fantastic Nikki picked Help For Heroes. We would like to say a huge thank you to him and all his fans.

"We hope they go out and buy the single as their way of showing support for our wounded."

Nikki's single I'm Coming Back was released last week, and is available on iTunes and Amazon.

This week MK NEWS is supporting Help For Heroes, with a special page of advertising from which all of the profits are going to the charity. See page 2 of today's Christmas TV Guide.

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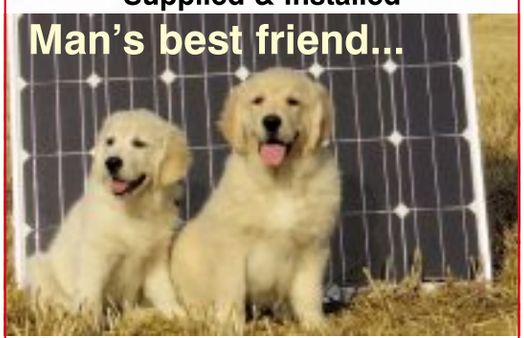
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MKNEWS

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MK Gallery hunts for artistic talent

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

AN OPEN call has been issued for all creative types in Milton Keynes to get involved in a huge project at MK Gallery next year.

The gallery is looking for all cultural and creative people with a connection to Milton Keynes to apply for inclusion in MK Calling.

The project is MK Gallery's summer 2013 exhibition, combined with a season of events from June 28 to September 8.

MK Gallery's director Anthony Spira said: "We would like to involve as wide a range of people as possible. If you are a painter, sculptor, poet, singer, sound artist, graphic designer, maybe a baker or hairdresser or involved in any other creative activity, please contact us.

"There are no restrictions – we want to hear from you."

No-one yet knows exactly what form MK Calling will take, or what events it will include – that will be decided once submissions are received at the gallery.

MK Calling is designed to explore the breadth of creativity in, or inspired by, Milton Keynes. There will be exhibitions, concerts, performances, screenings and readings, as well as opportunities for meeting, networking, peer reviews and training.

MK Calling: Staff at MK Gallery are looking for the city's artistic talent to take part in an exhibition which is planned for the summer of 2013

Assisting MK Gallery in the selection of work will be David Rayson, head of painting at the Royal College of Art in London, and Gill Perry, head of external collaborations at The Open University. Emma-Jayne Taylor, director of Artworks MK, will also help to assess submissions.

All submissions from people who live in the Milton Keynes unitary authority boundary will be entered into MK Community Foundation's Arts Bursary Award 2013, which will be announced on September 5. The winner receives an £8,000 grant.

To apply, send a short description of what you do to mkcalling@mkgallery.org, together with a CV and images of your work. Musicians and performers should attach material.

The deadline is March 8. Full details and guidelines available at www.mkgallery.org/s/mkcalling.

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Shoppers queue in the

BY DAN PALMER
dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

HUNDREDS of keen shoppers gathered when clothing giant Primark opened for the first time in Milton Keynes on Wednesday. But what is it that makes someone get up at the crack of dawn for the opening of a shop?

Freezing conditions did not deter the crowds who flocked to the store at the new MK1 retail park at stadiummk, behaviour which others found to be strange.

The hysteria could repeat itself in the future though with plans for another Primark in the city centre also on the cards.

Katy Smith, aged 26, from Eaglestone, said Primark is the store that has been missing from Milton Keynes.

The stay-at-home Mum was attracted by 'cheap prices'.

"I got up early to go, it was very exciting," she said.

"I don't think it is strange to go to the opening as this is a shop that I will be visiting several times, and it is of course the run up to Christmas."

Comments on the MK NEWS website supported Katy's stance.

Liz said: "I was fifth in the queue and I got there for 8am.

"After freezing for an hour I was so glad to get in the store to see how lovely it was.

"There were so many great items which were value for money and service was excellent. I will be popping in daily instead of the usual trek to Bedford."

However, Simon was one of those who did not see what all of the fuss was about.

He said: "It's a shop. What's the big deal? Surely there are more important issues in Milton Keynes than the opening of a new department store."

The second Primark is being proposed for an extension of thecentre:mk, a move which would see Secklow Gate bridge demolished.

Pressure group Xplain held a protest outside the council's Silbury Boulevard offices on Wednesday, calling for the bridge to be protected.

However, applicants at thecentre:mk have now collected more than 9,000 signatures in support of the plans.

"I would be in favour of another Primark," Miss Smith said. "Two is always better than one."

The MK1 Primark is the chain's first out of town location.

Jenny Mulligan, Regional Portfolio Manager at The Crown Estate, who own MK1, said: "We are really pleased that Primark have come to MK1."

In we go: The eager crowd rushes in to have a look at the new shop

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cold for Primark!

Lining up: A large queue formed outside the new Primark prior to its opening at MK1

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17th December
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Donation: Saj Kahn, back, with the tree on the children's ward

Xmas tree given to hospital ward

A RESTAURANT helped to brighten up the children's ward at Milton Keynes Hospital this Christmas by donating a tree, complete with lights and decorations.

The Silk Road restaurant, in CMK, donated the tree and decorations to make the ward feel festive for the children and the families who won't be lucky enough to spend Christmas at home this year.

Staff and children on the ward decorated the tree, joined by head chef Saj Kahn.

Don't make a fool of yourself at Christmas

BY DAN PALMER
dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

NOBODY wants to make a fool of themselves at their office Christmas party – and the NHS don't want you to either.

In fact, local health bosses are so keen to ensure that you don't become the subject of gossip around the water cooler, they have made a video guide on how to stay out of trouble.

Staff from NHS Milton Keynes have been out and about visiting businesses in the city to find out local people's tips for surviving the party season, and these have made it into the three-and-a-half minute video.

It is hoped that people will leave their parties with a smile on their faces instead of ending up in A&E after too much drink.

Steve Keites, General Manager of Regus Milton Keynes, an office solutions company, was one of those who took part.

"You want to make your work's Christmas night out one to remember, not one to forget, or one that you can't remember," he said. "We always go for a meal first so that we aren't drinking on empty stomachs.

"We also try to be organised and make sure everyone has their route home planned in advance."

Other tips to remember include making soft drinks part of your celebration, and learning to recognise when you've had enough.

To view the video, visit www.HowsYourElf.co.uk.

The website also includes a directory of local services, pharmacy opening hours for the Christmas and New Year period, and other advice on health and wellbeing.

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Christmas TV GUIDE

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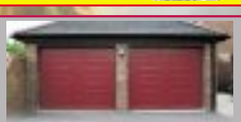

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Christmas TV GUIDE

PICK OF CHRISTMAS TV AND FILMS

For many families settling down to watch the Christmas telly is an essential part of the season. You've stuffed yourself silly and drank a little bit too much, so what could be better than unwinding on the sofa to view some of the biggest shows of the year? As usual some big guns will be serving up festive specials this year, so **MKNEWS** has taken a look at what promises to be a cracker of a line-up...

MR STINK
BBC1, Sunday December 23, 6.30pm
Many of us will be watching Hugh Bonneville as the imperious Lord Grantham in Downton Abbey, but see him here in a slightly different guise – living in a shed. Based on the book written by David Walliams, this family film, also starring Britain's Got Talent winner Pudsey, will get Christmas off to a great start.

THE SNOWMAN AND THE SNOWDOG
Channel 4, Christmas Eve, 8pm
Believe it or not, 30 years have passed since we were all first enchanted by Raymond Briggs' spectacular musical animation The Snowman, which has become as much a part of Christmas as turkey and granny in a cracker hat. Here our cold-hearted hero returns for a second adventure, with a puppy pal.

OUTNUMBERED
BBC1, Christmas Eve, 9.35pm
In this brand new episode the disaster-prone Brockmans return – in the midst of a winter vomiting virus. Cue mischief, misunderstandings and awkward questions from Karen.

ROOM ON THE BROOM
BBC1, Christmas Day, 4.35pm
From the author of children's bedtime favourite The Gruffalo, Room on the Broom is an animation packed with star voices including Simon Pegg, Gillian Anderson, David Walliams, Rob Brydon and Martin Clunes. Follow a kindly witch and her animal pals as they take on a fearsome dragon.

DOCTOR WHO
BBC1, Christmas Day, 5.15pm
All aboard the Tardis as the Doctor returns for another festive adventure, this time in Victorian London as he takes on the terrifying Snowmen – and Richard E Grant.

CALL THE MIDWIFE
BBC1, Christmas Day, 7.30pm
On the harsh working class streets of 1950s London in winter, the midwives continue to carry out their duties delivering festive babies and warming a few hearts. Rejoin Jenny Lee, Chummy and friends for a real Christmas cracker of a show.

DOWNTON ABBEY
ITV1, Christmas Day, 8.45pm
Join the family and staff as they head off on a Scottish holiday… in the middle of summer. There will be the usual high drama, and attempts from Thomas to win us all over.

EASTENDERS
BBC1, Christmas Day, 8.45pm
So will they or won't they? Max's big day is approaching, but you just know his secret is bound to surface. The big question is, will it be enough to prevent Tanya from marrying him? Oh, and just in case you were wondering, there is the annual Walford Christmas death.

THE ROYLE FAMILY
BBC1, Christmas Day, 9.45pm
They had a year off last year, but Jim, Barb, and the rest of Britain's favourite idle family return for a bit of festive fun. Dave plans to pitch an idea to Dragons' Den, and melancholy nextdoor neighbour Joe is looking for love with a lonely hearts ad.

THAT DOG CAN DANCE!
ITV1, Boxing Day, 8pm
We are a nation of dog lovers, so why not have your second helping of performing pooch Pudsey? Here he helps owner Ashleigh, Sharon Osbourne and Bill Bailey to judge doggy dancing. What more could you want in a Christmas show?

FESTIVE FILMS ON THE BOX

HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK
Channel 4, Christmas Eve, 2.50pm
Macaulay Culkin returns as Kevin to battle bungling burglars Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern in a sequel that some hail as being better than the original. Decide for yourself!

NATIVITY!
BBC2, Christmas Eve, 3.55pm
Hobbit hero Martin Freeman is a reluctant producer of his primary school's nativity play. But a lie he tells about his Hollywood producer ex-girlfriend coming to see the show gets out of hand, and soon he is working hard not to let the children and the affable Mr Poppy down. Cue hilarity.

BEN HUR
Channel 5, Christmas Day, 1.15pm
If you can find time between unwrapping presents, cooking dinner and entertaining the relatives to spend four hours watching this epic classic, then do it. Arguably Charlton Heston's most famous role, the Oscar-riddled film follows a chariot-driving Jewish nobleman taking on the Roman Empire.

TOY STORY
ITV1, Christmas Day, 1.25pm
The first fully computer-generated feature film has been delighting children and adults alike for 17 years. Yes, 17 years. Join Woody, Buzz and the rest of the gang as they try to foil the plans of a mean toy-torturing bully.

LORD OF THE RINGS: FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING
Channel 4, Christmas Day, 5.40pm
Just the ticket for that post-dinner lull on the sofa. JRR Tolkien's band of adventurers as they begin their quest to get rid of the powerful ring. The sequels are also on Channel 4 – the second on Boxing Day at 6.55pm and the third on Saturday, December 29 at 7.20pm.

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON
BBC1, Boxing Day, 5pm
Teenage Hiccup is part of a Viking tribe that believes dragons are to be slain on sight. But Hiccup has the ability to 'whisper' to the dragons, and befriends wounded Night Fury dragon Toothless.

Christmas TV GUIDE

20th, 21 & 22nd December

QUADROPHENIA
ITV-3am, Friday 21st

STRICTLY COME DANCING: THE RESULTS
BBC1-8.50pm, Saturday 22nd

THE JONATHAN ROSS SHOW CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
ITV-9.00pm, Saturday 22nd

THURSDAY DECEMBER 20

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BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Heir Hunters (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** You've Been Scammed (S) **11.30** Cash in the Attic (R/S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (R/S) **1.00** News (S) **1.45** Doctors (S) **2.15** Escape to the Country (R/S) **3.05** Show Me What You're Made Of (R/S) **3.35** Slammer (R/S) **4.00** Help! My Supply Teacher is Magic (R/S) **4.30** Rocket's Island (R/S) **5.00** Newsround (S) **5.15** Pointless Celebrities (S) **6.00** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 The One Show (S)
7.30 EastEnders (S)
8.00 Young Apprentice (S)
9.00 Michael McIntyre's Christmas Comedy Roadshow (R/S)
10.00 News (S)
10.35 Lapland (R/S)
11.50 This Week (S)
12.35 Weatherview (S) **12.40** Sign Zone: Britain's Secret Terror Squad (R/S) **1.40** Countryfile (R/S) **2.40** Antiques Roadshow (R/S) **3.40** Masterchef: The Professionals (R/S) **4.40** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **11.30** News (S) **12.00** Daily Politics (S) **1.00** Royal Upstairs Downstairs (R/S) **1.30** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **2.15** The Weakest Link (R/S) **3.00** Real Rescues (R/S) **3.45** Wanted Down Under Revisited (R/S) **4.30** Flog It (S) **5.15** Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is (R/S) **6.00** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing: It Takes Two (S)

7.00 Masterchef: The Professionals: Michel's Classics (R/S)
7.30 Christmas University Challenge Liverpool and Cardiff fight it out with guests Lawrence McGinty and Bill Turnbull. (S)
8.00 Springwatch Guide to Otters (S)
9.00 FILM: Last Chance Harvey (2008) Romance with Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson. (S)
10.30 Newsnight (S)
11.20 The Bleak Old Shop of Stuff (R/S) **12.20** An Island Parish (R/S) **12.50** News (S) **4.00** Spark (R/S) **5.10** The Big Wheel (R/S) **5.25** My Kite is Flying (R/S) **5.40** The Charles Dickens Show: Christmas (R/S)

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** Storage Hoarders (S) **3.00** Dickinson's Real Deal (S) **4.00** Britain's Best Bakery (S) **5.00** The Chase (S) **6.00** News

7.00 Emmerdale Cameron takes his place on the witness stand. (S)
7.30 2012 and the Best of British (S)
8.00 Emmerdale Alicia is thrilled to discover that she stands another chance with David. (S)
8.30 Coronation Street (S)
9.00 Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Christmas Special Celebrity contestants attempt to win that magical million. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.35 FILM: Waterworld (1995) Action fantasy starring Kevin Costner and Dennis Hopper. (S)
1.00 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** 2012 and the Best of British (R/S) **3.25** Nightscreen **4.35** Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. Double bill. (R/S) **7.00** Freshly Squeezed (S) **7.30** According to Jim (R/S) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. Double bill. (R/S) **9.00** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R/S) **11.00** Jamie's Christmas with Bells On (R/S) **12.05** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S) **12.15 FILM: Swiss Family Robinson** (1960) (R/S) **2.40** Countdown (S) **3.30** 1001 Things You Should Know (S) **4.00** Deal Or No Deal (S) **5.00** Come Dine with Me Celebrity Christmas Special (S) **5.30** Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces at Christmas (S)
9.00 Jamie & Jimmy's Food Fight Club (S)
10.00 Adam Hills Stands Up Live (S)
11.40 FILM: Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) (S)

1.30 David Blaine - Magic Man (R/S) **2.20** Unreported World (R) **2.45** Britain on the Breadline (R/S) **3.15** Time Team (R/S) **4.20** Deal Or No Deal (R/S) **5.15** Countdown (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.55** Mexican Food Made Simple (R/S) **10.25** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **11.25** Superior Interiors with Kelly Hoppen (R/S) **12.25** Build a New Life in the Country (R/S) **1.30 FILM: Mrs Miracle** (2009) (S) **3.15 FILM: All I Want for Christmas** (2007) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railways Chris travels down the Konkan rail line, which runs down the west coast of India. (R/S)
8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012: Qualifiers The final qualifying round takes place in Poland, where two Englishmen try to keep British hopes alive. (S)
9.00 New Cowboy Builders (S)
10.00 FILM: Lord of War (2005) Satirical action thriller starring Nicolas Cage and Bridget Moynahan. (S)

12.25 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S) **5.35** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

FRIDAY DECEMBER 21

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Heir Hunters (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** You've Been Scammed (S) **11.30** Cash in the Attic (R/S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (R/S) **1.00** News (S) **1.45** Doctors (S) **2.15** Escape to the Country (R/S) **3.05** Show Me What You're Made Of (R/S) **3.30** Cbeebies Special (S) **5.15** Pointless Celebrities (S) **6.00** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 The One Show (S)
7.30 Nigel Slater's 12 Tastes of Christmas (S)
8.00 EastEnders (S)
8.30 Outnumbered (R/S)
9.00 Have I Got News for You Christmas Special (S)
9.30 Live at the Apollo (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.35 The Graham Norton Show (S)
11.30 John Bishop's Britain Christmas Special (R/S)

12.15 EastEnders (R/S) **2.10** Weatherview (S) **2.15** Sign Zone: Natural World (R/S) **3.15** Masterchef (R/S) **4.15** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **11.30** News (S) **12.00** Daily Politics (S) **1.00** Royal Upstairs Downstairs (R/S) **1.30** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **2.15** The Weakest Link (R/S) **3.00** Real Rescues (R/S) **3.45** Wanted Down Under Revisited (R/S) **4.30** Flog It (S) **5.15** Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is (R/S) **6.00** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing: It Takes Two (S)

7.30 Christmas University Challenge Newnham College, Cambridge and the University of Nottingham fight it out with guests Diane Abbott MP and Brian Moore. (S)
8.00 Mastermind (S)
8.30 An Island Parish (S)
9.00 Westminster Abbey (S)
10.00 QI (S)
10.30 Newsnight (S)
11.05 The Grumpy Guide to Christmas (R/S)

12.05 FILM: Holiday in Handcuffs (2007) Romantic comedy with Melissa Joan Hart and Mario Lopez. (S) **1.30** News (S) **4.15** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** Storage Hoarders (S) **3.00** Dickinson's Real Deal (S) **4.00** Britain's Best Bakery (S) **5.00** The Chase (S) **6.00** News **6.55** Text Santa Starts Here (S)

7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 Coronation Street (S)
8.00 Text Santa Ant and Dec, Holly Willoughby, Phillip Schofield, Paddy McGuinness and Christine Bleakley join forces to host the annual charity appeal. Celebrity guests include Dame Helen Mirren, David Harewood and Alan Titchmarsh, and Gary Barlow and Dawn French team up for a very special comedy duet. (S)
11.00 News (S)
11.15 Celebrity Juice . (S)
12.00 Text Santa (S) **1.15** Jackpot247 (S)
3.00 FILM: Quadrophenia (1979) Cult drama adapted from The Who's classic album. (S) **5.00** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. Double bill. (R/S) **7.00** Freshly Squeezed (S) **7.30** According to Jim (R/S) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. Double bill. (R/S) **9.00** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R/S) **11.00** Jamie's Christmas with Bells On (R/S) **12.05** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S) **12.25 FILM: Cutthroat Island** (1995) (R/S) **2.40** Countdown (S) **3.30** 1001 Things You Should Know (S) **4.00** Deal Or No Deal (S) **5.00** Come Dine with Me Celebrity Christmas Special (S) **5.30** Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.30 Unreported World: Burma (S)
8.00 King of Christmas Lights (R/S)
9.00 The Hoarder Next Door Christmas Special (S)
10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man (S)
11.05 Father Ted Christmas Special (R/S)
12.15 Father Ted. Double bill. (R/S) **1.15** Full English (R/S) **1.45** The Ricky Gervais. Double bill. (S) **2.40** My Name is Earl (R/S) **3.00** Glory Daze (S) **3.50** 90210 (S) **4.30** Deal Or No Deal (R/S) **5.25** Countdown (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.55** Mexican Food Made Simple (R/S) **10.25** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **11.25** Superior Interiors with Kelly Hoppen (R/S) **12.25** Build a New Life in the Country (R/S) **1.25 FILM: Meet the Santas** (2005) Comedy sequel with Steve Guttenberg and Crystal Bernard. (S) **3.10 FILM: Mistletoe Over Manhattan** (2011) Festive romantic comedy starring Tedde Moore, Tricia Helfer, Greg Bryk and Maxwell Uretsky. (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 New Cowboy Builders (R/S)
8.00 North Pole Ice Airport (S)
9.00 The Mentalist (S)
10.00 Castle Castle and Beckett investigate when a contestant in a cookery-based reality show is killed. (S)
11.00 Law and Order: Criminal Intent (R/S)
11.55 Inside Hollywood (R)
12.00 Supercasino **3.50** Motorsport Mundial **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

SATURDAY DECEMBER 22

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **10.00** Christmas Saturday Kitchen (S) **11.30** Nigel Slater's Christmas Suppers (R/S) **12.15** Football Focus (S) **1.00** Equestrian: Olympia 2012 (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.20** News (S) **5.40** Pointless Celebrities (S) **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing (S)

7.55 Merlin Morgana prepares for war and Merlin feels the weight of his destiny as the ancient prophecies play out with terrifying accuracy. (S)
8.40 The National Lottery (S)
8.50 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results Sir Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly reveal the winner of this year's competition. Plus, Robbie Williams performs and all the dancers take to the floor for one last time. (S)
10.05 News (S)
10.25 Match of the Day (R/S)
11.55 The Football League Show (S)
1.10 Weatherview (S) **1.15** Sign Zone: Rolling Stones: Crossfire Hurricane (R/S) **3.10** Nigellissima: An Italian Inspired Christmas (R/S) **4.10** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **12.20 FILM: Spy Kids 3: Game Over** (2003) (S) **1.35 FILM: Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (2008) (S) **3.00** Nigellissima: An Italian Inspired Christmas (R/S) **4.00 FILM: The Game Plan** (2007) Family sports comedy starring Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson and Madison Pettis. (S) **5.45** The Toys That Made Christmas (R/S)

7.15 Porridge Christmas Special Fletcher adds a bit of Christmas spirit to the festive season at Slade Prison in the form of his very own home-made liquor. (R)
8.00 TOTP2: Christmas 2012 (S)
9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks Bob Mortimer hosts this Christmas edition. With Melanie C, DJ Fresh, Russell Tovey and Joey Page. (S)
10.00 The Mystery of Edwin Drood (R/S) **12.00** The Story of a Fairytale of New York (R/S) **1.00** QI Christmas Special (R/S) **1.30** Never Mind the Buzzcocks (R/S) **2.00 FILM: Arch of Triumph** (1948) Wartime drama with Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer. **4.05** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Special Agent Oso (S) **6.25** The Hive (R/S) **7.05** Fleabag Monkeyface (R/S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (R/S) **8.05** Horrid Henry (R/S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. Double bill. (S) **11.20** Murder, She Wrote (R/S) **12.35** Holiday Home Sweet Home. Double bill. (S) **2.35** Steppin' Out with Katherine Jenkins (R/S) **3.50** News **4.20 FILM: Back to the Future Part III** (1990) Concluding part of the time-travel trilogy with Michael J Fox. (S) **6.30** Nation's Favourite Christmas Song (S)

8.00 Paddy's 2012 Show and Telly Paddy McGuinness hosts the end-of-the-year TV quiz show. (S)
9.00 The Jonathan Ross Show Christmas Special With Michael McIntyre, Sheridan Smith, Sienna Miller, Ellie Simmonds, Jonnie Peacock and Jamie Oliver.(S)
10.30 News (S)
10.45 FILM: Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991) Sci-fi sequel. (S)
1.15 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** In Plain Sight (R/S) **3.45** Nightscreen

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. Double bill. (R/S) **7.00** The Enduroman Arch to Arc Triathlon (S) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.55** The Morning Line (S) **8.55** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **9.55 FILM: A Christmas Carol** (2004) Festive drama based on the 1994 musical adaptation of the Dickens classic with Kelsey Grammer and Jennifer Love Hewitt. (R/S) **11.50** The Big Bang Theory (R/S) **12.20** Simpsons (R/S) **1.20** C4 Racing from Ascot and Haydock Park (S) **3.30** River Cottage: Three Go Mad at Christmas (R/S) **4.35** Come Dine with Me: Celebrity Christmas Special. Five episodes. (R/S)

7.05 News (S)
7.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces at Christmas (R/S)
8.30 Stephen Fry: Gadget Man (S)
9.00 FILM: Four Christmases (2008) Festive romantic comedy with Reese Witherspoon and Vince Vaughn. (S)
10.40 FILM: Die Hard 2 (1990) (R/S)
1.00 FILM: A Christmas Tale (2010) (S)
2.25 Hollyoaks Omnibus (S) **4.30** 90210 (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.50** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **9.55** Dallas (R/S) **10.50** Once Upon a Time. Double bill. (R/S) **12.50 FILM: Crazy for Christmas** (2005) Festive drama starring Andrea Roth and Howard Hesseman. (S) **2.40 FILM: Dear Santa** (2011) Festive comedy drama with Amy Acker and David Haydn-Jones. (S) **4.30 FILM: Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan** (2010) Drama starring Doris Roberts, Jewel Staite and Lauren Holly. (S) **6.20 FILM: I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus** (2001) Festive fun starring Connie Sellecca and Corbin Bernsen. (S)

8.00 FILM: A Christmas Carol (1999) Dickens' classic tale starring Patrick Stewart and Richard E Grant. (S)
10.00 News
10.05 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Classic comedy from 1973. (R/S)
11.10 FILM: The Plank (1967) (S)
12.10 Supercasino **3.55** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S) **4.20** The Great Artists (R/S) **4.50** Rough Guide to Eco Escapes (R/S) **5.05** Milkshake

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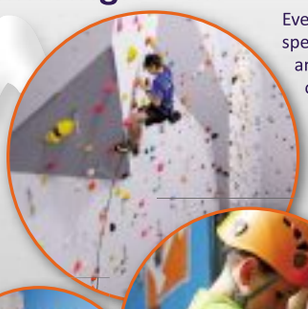

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MK Gallery

MK Calling

Open Call for Submissions

MK Calling is the gallery's summer 2013 exhibition and events programme, designed to explore the breadth of creativity in (or inspired by) Milton Keynes.

If you are a painter, sculptor, poet, singer, sound artist, graphic designer, baker, hairdresser or involved in any other form of creative activity then please apply to be included. We want to involve as wide a range of creative people as possible; there are no restrictions!

Applications

For full details and guidelines on how to apply visit:

www.mkgallery.org/s/mkcalling

Deadline: 8 March 2013

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

MK Calling is produced in partnership with

Independent Cinema MK

ArtworksMK

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Christmas TV GUIDE

PANTO SEASON IN MILTON KEYNES

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Milton Keynes Theatre, until January 6

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Tickets from £12, from 0844 871 7652 or www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes.

DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT

The Venue, Walton High School, Friday-Sunday, December 30

Milton Keynes Theatre of Comedy put their own unique spin on this classic tale of fortune hunting in London in the olden days. Dick tries to foil King Rat's attempts to take over London, and has only his cat Tiddles by his side. Can Dick become Lord Mayor and live happily ever after?

Tickets £13, £10 concessions from 01234 241357.

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The Stables, until January 5

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Christmas TV GUIDE

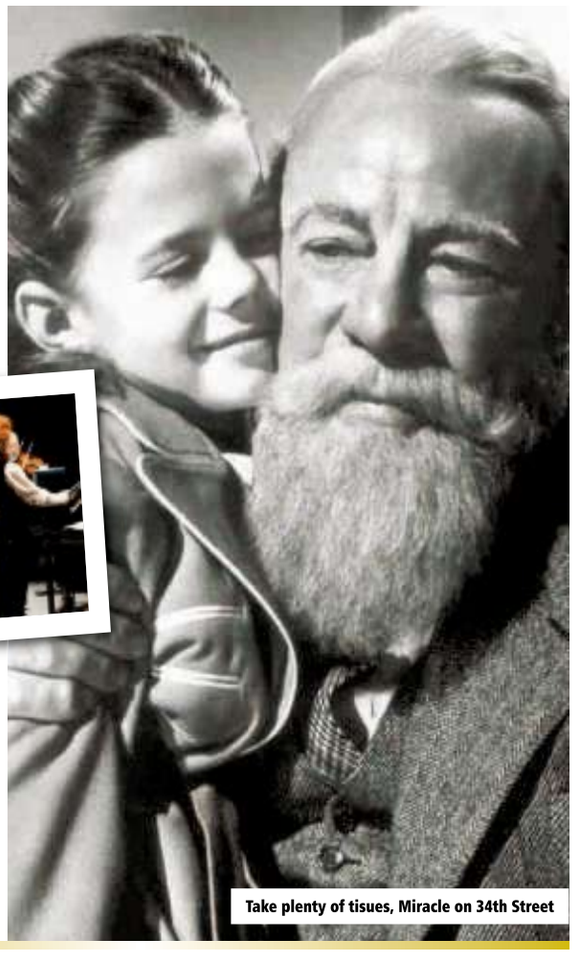
OUT & ABOUT IN MK...

CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH MKC

Get into the Christmas spirit with Milton Keynes City Orchestra on Saturday at 6pm. The orchestra's Symphonic Brass performs a selection of festive favourites which guarantee a warm glow (nothing to do with the mulled wine). The evening, being held at the Church of St Peter and St Paul in Newport Pagnell, will feature carols and other seasonal songs to fill you with Christmas cheer. Audience participation is a must as you join in for merriments such as Hark! The Herald Angels Sing and O Come, All Ye Faithful. **Tickets are £10 booked in advance through the Milton Keynes City Orchestra box office on 01908 558311.**

MK GALLERY

There's the chance to see a Christmas classic at MK Gallery on Friday, so get the popcorn in for Miracle on 34th Street. When a nice old man who claims to be Santa Claus is institutionalised as insane, a young lawyer decides to defend him by arguing in court that he is the real thing. It starts at 7pm and tickets are £5 or £3 for concessions.
Phone 01908 676 900 for more information.



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Christmas TV GUIDE

Ali Cook, cooking up some magic at the Sno!Bar

COMEDY

Four more comedians take to the Sno!Bar stage at Xscape tomorrow night, so get ready for some festive fun and frolics.
Ali Cook (not the England cricket captain) is also known as 'The Enchanter' and is described as one of the pioneers of the alternative magic scene; you might know him from the hit show Monkey Magic.
Joining him is George Egg, an unusual and accomplished stand-up with surreal stories, hilarious observations and a massive array of visual delights, Scottish comedian Dan Evans and Paul Sinha, an international comic who also happens to be a GP.
Tickets cost £10 and doors open at 7pm. For group discounts call 01908 680824 or visit www.its-comedy.co.uk for more information

ONE WORLD CLUB – THE BIG BUSK

Local talent from around Milton Keynes will be in Middleton Hall in thecentre:mk on Saturday between 3.30-5.30pm collecting for the Winter Night Shelter, which provides hot food, beds and entertainment for those who need it most this winter.
The line-up includes 11-year-old singing sensation Lydia Singer, Punjab drumming band Rhythm Blasters, sitar player Paul Jackson and Bboy JMC, a master of hip hop and breakdance.
Also on the bill are The Hope, a band made up of local homeless people who have put together a charity record called The Cry Of The Homeless, as previously featured in MKNEWS.

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Christmas TV GUIDE

QUIZ OF THE YEAR...

How many of the events of 2012 can you remember?

1. Which multinational company has promised to pay £20million in tax in the next two years, after it was revealed it has only paid £8.6m in corporation tax in 14 years despite making £400m in the UK in 2011?
2. In October a Government competition for the future running of the West Coast Main Line railway was scrapped after a host of failings were discovered. Which company won the competition, only to find it would have to do it all again?
3. Which horse retired this year after it became one of the greatest of all time, winning 14 races out of 14?
4. Former Conservative MP Louise Mensch sparked a by-election when she resigned, in which Northamptonshire town?
5. The top three countries in the final Olympic medals table were USA, China and GB. Which country finished fourth?
6. Who won this year's X Factor?
7. Psy topped the charts after his song Gangnam Style became an internet sensation. The song is about a region in which Asian country?
8. Jessica Ennis and Mo Farah both won gold on August 4th 2012, dubbed Super Saturday. Who was the third athlete to win gold in the Olympic Stadium on the same evening?
9. To celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, three places – one in England, one in Scotland and one in Wales – were given city status. One point for each you can name.
10. Which horse won this year's Grand National?
11. Who did Barack Obama beat to win the US Presidential Election?
12. What group featuring Kerry Katona announced that they would reform?
13. Which MP caused a stir by entering the I'm A Celebrity jungle?
14. What is the name of London's new cable car?
15. Who did Andy Murray beat in the final when he won the US Open, and for a bonus point, what was the score in the final set?

Answers: 1. Starbucks 2. First Group 3. Frankel 4.Corby 5. Russia 6. James Arthur 7. South Korea 8. Greg Rutherford 9. St Asaph (Wales) Perth (Scotland) Chelmsford (England) 10. Neptune Collonges 11. Mitt Romney 12. Atomic Kitten 13. Nadine Dorries 14. Emirates Air Line 15. Novak Djokovic, 6-2.

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Christmas TV GUIDE

GAME FOR A LAUGH?

Christmas is a great time to get the family together. Why not turn off the Wii and the Xbox and enjoy one of these great traditional family games

WHO'S IN THE HAT?

This requires quick thinking and great powers of description.
Get everyone in the room to write down the names of ten or more celebrities, book characters or other notable names on scraps of paper, then throw them all into a hat.
As with charades, first decide whether to split into teams or play as individuals.
Players or teams have two minutes to take it in turns to pick names out of the hat and describe them as quickly as possible without using initials, rhymes or the name itself.
Each time a correct guess is given, the player selects a new name and continues until the time is up or, if you are really good, you run out of names.

CHARADES

This time-honoured classic has the royal seal of approval, as it's supposed to be a favourite of The Queen herself.
Each person in the room writes the names of ten books, films, plays, television programmes or songs on scraps of paper, then folds them and throws them into a large bowl.
If there are lots of you, split into teams and mime to your own team-mates.
If there are fewer than eight of you, it's best simply to take turns to fish a piece of paper out of the bowl and mime to the assembled group.
The first person to guess correctly then takes his or her turn, and so it goes on.
Remember, it's always best to have a time limit of say, two minutes per mime, to keep things lively.

THE VICAR'S CAT

A word game for all ages and one that children have enjoyed over the years.
Everyone takes his or her turn to describe 'the vicar's cat' using letters of the alphabet in order.
For example, the first player might say 'the vicar's cat is an awful cat' and the next could say 'the vicar's cat is a beautiful cat'.
Keep going until a player hesitates for too long, which means they are out, and the last one wins. You can always try singing the verses just to speed it along.

IN THE FRAME

You need nerves of steel to win this one.
Provide an empty picture frame (or one cut from cardboard) for each player to hold in front of their face.
The object of the game is that the player holding the frame must stay completely poker-faced and still (apart from the odd blink) for a whole minute while the other players try to make them laugh by making silly faces and sounds and telling jokes. Remember tickling is out as there must be no physical contact between players.
You could have a lucky dip box of small prizes for anyone who can go the whole distance without cracking a smile. Play then passes to the next player.

CHARADES
Is it Lord of the Rings?

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If you are looking for an opportunity to learn about drama in a creative, fun and supportive environment, Milton Keynes Theatre is the right place. Through drama games and exercises we aim to help young people gain confidence, self-esteem and improve communication and social skills.

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For further information please contact Creative Learning on 01908 547651 or email rachaelfindlay@theambassadors.com

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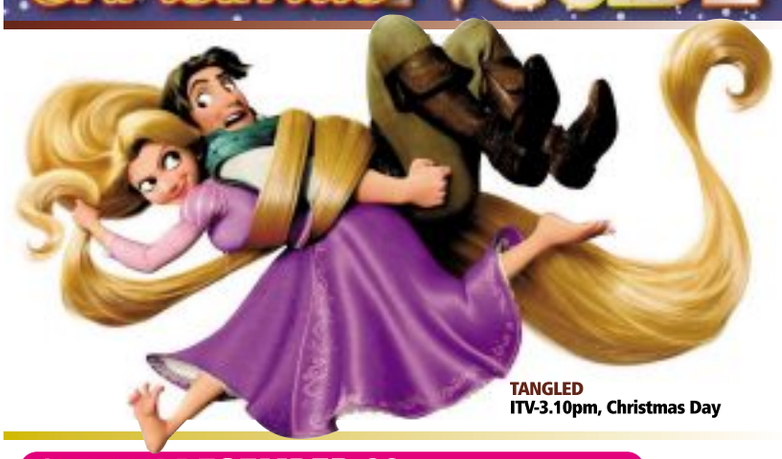
Christmas TV GUIDE

23rd, 24th & 25th December



TANGLED
ITV-3.10pm, Christmas Day

ALAN CARR CHATTY MAN CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
Channel 4-9.00pm, Christmas Day

SUNDAY DECEMBER 23

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **7.30** Match of the Day (R/S) **9.00** David Suchet: In the Footsteps of St Paul (S) **10.00** Fern Britton Meets... Dionne Warwick (S) **11.00** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **12.10** 'Allo 'Allo! (R/S) **12.55** Nigel Slater's 12 Tastes of Christmas (R/S) **1.30** The Borrowers (R/S) **2.55 FILM: Cool Runnings** (1993) (S) **4.30** Songs of Praise (S) **5.05** News (S) **5.30** Countryfile (S) **6.30** Mr Stink (S)
7.30 Antiques Roadshow (S)
8.30 Loving Miss Hatto Drama inspired by the true story of classical pianist Joyce Hatto. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.25 Match of the Day 2 (S)
11.25 The Graham Norton Show With Dustin Hoffman, Billy Connolly, Matt Smith and Jennifer Saunders. (R/S)
12.15 FILM: Grumpy Old Men (1993) (S) **1.55** Weatherview (S) **2.00** Sign Zone: Film 2012 (R/S) **2.30** Holby City (R/S) **3.30** Nigel Slater's 12 Tastes of Christmas. Double bill. (R/S) **4.30** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.30** 12 Again (R/S) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) **11.30** The Great British Bake Off Christmas Masterclass (R/S) **12.30 FILM: The Preacher's Wife** (1996) Romantic fantasy starring Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston. (S) **2.40** Escape to the Country (R/S) **3.25** Flog It (R/S) **4.25 FILM: First Knight** (1995) (S) **6.30** The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show: 1973 (R/S)
7.35 Victoria Wood with All the Trimmings (R/S)
8.30 Dragons' Den Christmas Special A former dinner lady offers her take on Christmas cake, complete with Brussels sprouts. (S)
9.30 James May's Toy Stories: Flight Club (S)
10.30 The Sarah Millican Television Programme (S)
11.00 Victoria Wood: Seen on TV (R/S) **12.30** QI (R/S) **1.00 FILM: French Film** Romantic comedy with Hugh Bonneville. (S) **2.25 FILM: They Knew What They Wanted** (1940) **3.50** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Engie Benjy (R/S) **6.35** Signed Stories (R/S) **7.05** Fleabag Monkeyface (R/S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (R/S) **8.00** Big Time Rush (S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.25** Dinner Date (S) **10.20** Columbo (R/S) **12.30 FILM: Carry on Cowboy** (1965) (S) **2.15** All Star Family Fortunes (R/S) **3.00** The Mcfly Show (R/S) **4.05 FILM: Twins** (1988) (S) **6.05** You've Been Framed! (R/S) **6.35** News (S)
7.00 Ade's Christmas Crackers Ade Edmondson reviews the best and worst of Christmas TV over the last 60 years. (S)
8.00 The Cube With presenter Melanie Sykes and dancer Ashley Banjo. (S)
9.00 Joanna Lumley: The Search for Noah's Ark The actress crosses three continents in search of the truth behind the story of Noah's Ark. (S)
10.30 News (S)
10.45 Take Me Out Celebrity Christmas Special (R/S)
11.45 Rugby Highlights (S)
12.45 Jackpot247 (S) **2.45** River Monsters (R/S) **3.35** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. Double bill. (R/S) **7.05** Prep & Landing (R/S) **7.50** The Bear (R/S) **8.20** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (S) **8.25** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **9.30** Sunday Brunch (S) **12.05** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R) **1.00** Simpsons (R/S) **2.00** Deal Or No Deal (S) **3.00** 100 Greatest Toys with Jonathan Ross (R/S) **6.05** News (S) **6.20** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (S) **6.25** The Snowman (R/S) **6.55 FILM: Night at the Museum** (2006) (R)
9.00 Homeland Following the dramatic events at the mill, Carrie must decide where her heart really lies. (S)
10.30 Peep Show Jeremy, desperate to avoid living with Superhans, sparks up an old relationship with Mark's sister Sara. (S)
11.00 FILM: In Bruges (2008) (R/S) **1.00** American Football Live (S) **4.45** Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind. Double bill. (R/S) **5.00** Freesports on 4 (R/S) **5.25** Unreported World: Burma (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **10.00** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **10.20** Dallas (R/S) **11.15** Once Upon a Time. Double bill. (R/S) **1.10 FILM: The Christmas Consultant** (2012) Festive drama starring Caroline Rhea and David Hasselhoff. (S) **2.55 FILM: It's a Very Merry Muppet Christmas Movie** (2002) David Arquette, Whoopi Goldberg, Joan Cusack, Matthew Lillard, and William H Macy in a seasonal Muppet movie. (S) **4.40 FILM: Christmas with the Kranks** (2004) Comedy with Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis. (S) **6.40 FILM: The Family Man** (2000) Romantic comedy with Nicolas Cage, Téa Leoni and Don Cheadle. (S)
8.55 News (S)
9.00 FILM: Bad Santa (2003) Black comedy starring Billy Bob Thornton, Tony Cox and Lauren Graham. (S)
11.00 FILM: Superbad (2007) (S) **12.35** To Be Announced **1.15** Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.25** House Doctor (R/S) **4.50** Rough Guide to Weekend Breaks (R/S) **5.05** Milkshake

CHRISTMAS EVE

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** David Suchet: In The Footsteps of St Paul (S) **10.00** The Two Ronnies Christmas Special (R/S) **11.00** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **12.25 FILM: The Santa Clause** (1994) (S) **2.00 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian** (2008) (S) **4.15 FILM: Merry Madagascar** (2009) Seasonal short with Ben Stiller and Chris Rock. (S) **4.35** The Gruffalo's Child (R/S) **5.05 FILM: Lady and the Tramp** (1955) (S) **6.45 FILM: A Christmas Carol** (2009) Animation starring Jim Carrey and Gary Oldman. (S)
8.15 Merlin (S)
9.00 EastEnders (S)
9.35 Outnumbered Christmas Special (S)
10.15 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special (S)
10.45 The Vicar of Dibley (R/S)
11.30 News (S)
11.45 Midnight Mass from Leeds Cathedral (S)
1.05 FILM: Serendipity (2001) (S)
2.30 Weatherview (S) **2.35** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.10 FILM: The Nightmare Before Christmas** (1993) (S) **10.20 FILM: Who Framed Roger Rabbit** (1988) Comedy adventure with Bob Hoskins and Christopher Lloyd. (S) **11.55** The Great British Bake Off Masterclass (R/S) **12.55** Wartime Farm Christmas (R/S) **1.55** Springwatch Guide to Otters (R/S) **2.55** Equestrian: Olympia 2012 (S) **3.55 FILM: Nativity!** (2009) Family comedy starring Martin Freeman. (S) **5.35** Dad's Army (R) **6.15** Carols from King's (S)
7.30 Morecambe and Wise: Song and Dance Sketches (S)
8.30 Open All Hours (R)
9.00 Porridge Christmas Special (R)
9.40 The Many Faces of... Ronnie Barker (S)
10.40 The Two Ronnies: The Studio Recordings (R/S)
11.10 Being Ronnie Corbett (R/S) **12.10** QI (R/S) **12.40** An Island Parish (R/S) **1.10 FILM: The Tuttles of Tahiti** (1942) Light-hearted family drama with Charles Laughton and Jon Hall. **2.40** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.30** Horrid Henry (S) **8.00 FILM: Scooby-Doo and the Cyber Chase** (2001) (S) **9.25 FILM: Dennis** (1993) (S) **11.05** Dinner Date (S) **12.30** The Chase (R/S) **1.30** Doc Martin (R/S) **3.30** Rod Stewart's Christmas (R/S) **4.45 FILM: How the Grinch Stole Christmas** (2000) Children's fantasy based on the Dr Seuss classic with Jim Carrey. (S) **6.40** News (S)
7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Will Peter's heartfelt words have the desired effect on Leanne? (S)
8.30 The Spice Girls Story: Viva Forever! The definitive story of one of pop music's biggest girl groups. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.15 Christmas Carols on ITV (S)
11.15 The Jonathan Ross Show Christmas Special (S)
12.45 The Unforgettable Danny La Rue (R/S) **1.40** Pushing Daisies (R/S) **2.25** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 FILM: The Rugrats Movie (1998) (R) **7.25** Famous Fred (R/S) **7.55** Ivor the Invisible (R/S) **8.20** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (S) **8.30 FILM: A Christmas Carol** (2001) (R/S) **10.05** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R/S) **11.00** The Muppets Christmas Carol (R/S) **12.40** Simpsons (R/S) **1.45** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **2.50 FILM: Home Alone 2** (1992) (R/S) **5.05** Simpsons (R/S) **5.40** Hollyoaks (S) **6.10** News (S) **6.30** Heston's Fantastical Christmas (R/S)
7.30 Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas (R/S)
8.00 The Snowman and the Snowdog (S)
8.30 Stephen Fry: Gadget Man Christmas Special (S)
9.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special (S)
10.00 Peep Show (S)
10.30 Friday Night Dinner (S)
11.05 The Inbetweeners Marathon (R/S)
2.15 Rude Tube Special 2010 (R/S) **4.05** Made in Chelsea (S) **5.00** 90210 (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.40** The Family Recipe (R/S) **9.50** Dallas (R/S) **10.40** Once Upon a Time. Double bill. (R/S) **12.35 FILM: Mistletoe Over Manhattan** (2011) (S) **2.25 FILM: Trading Christmas** (2011) (S) **4.10 FILM: Scrooge - A Christmas Carol** (1951) Adaptation of Dickens's classic story with Alastair Sim and Kathleen Harrison. (S) **6.00** Rolf's Animal Christmas (S)
7.00 World's Biggest Pets Prepare yourself for looming seven-feet-tall dogs, rabbits that weigh the same as a five year old and the biggest pet on the planet. (S)
8.00 A Right Royal Year (R/S)
9.00 Eddie Stobart's Christmas Cracker The iconic Eddie Stobart trucking company returns for a seasonal special. (S)
10.00 FILM: The Thomas Crown Affair (1999) (S)
12.15 NCIS (R/S) **1.15** Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

CHRISTMAS DAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** The Gruffalo (R/S) **9.25** Peter Rabbit's Christmas Tale (R/S) **9.50 FILM: First Flight** (S) **10.00** Christmas Day Eucharist (S) **11.00** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **12.15** Shrek the Halls (R/S) **12.40 FILM: Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (2008) Animated sequel with Ben Stiller and Jada Pinkett Smith. (S) **2.00** Top of the Pops Christmas (S) **3.10 FILM: Shrek Forever After** (2009) (S) **4.35 FILM: Room on the Broom** Animation with Gillian Anderson and Rob Brydon. (S) **5.15** Doctor Who (S) **6.15** Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special (S)
7.30 Call the Midwife (S)
8.45 EastEnders (S)
9.45 The Royle Family Christmas Special (S)
10.45 News (S)
11.00 The Vicar of Dibley (R/S)
11.40 On Christmas Night (S)
11.45 Have I Got a Bit More News for You Christmas Special (R/S)
12.30 FILM: Cold Mountain (2003) (S)
2.55 Weatherview (S) **3.00** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **8.45** Attenborough and the Giant Egg (R/S) **9.45** Attenborough's Ark: Natural World Special (R/S) **10.45** Carols from King's (R/S) **12.00 FILM: On the Town** (1949) **1.35 FILM: Singin' in the Rain** (1952) Classic Hollywood musical with Gene Kelly and Debbie Reynolds. (S) **3.15** Cenerentola (S) **5.25** Sister Wendy and the Art of the Gospel (S) **6.25** 50 Years of Bond Cars: A Top Gear Special (R/S)
7.30 Dad's Army (R)
8.00 Blackadder's Christmas Carol (R/S)
8.45 The Choir: A Year with the Military Wives A look back as the women of the choir visit 10 Downing Street, perform at the Golden Jubilee, win a Classical Brit and even launch a number one Christmas single. (S)
9.45 QI XL (R/S)
10.30 The Sarah Millican Television Programme (R/S)
11.00 The Christmas No.1 Story (R/S) **12.00** TOTP2: Christmas 2012 (R/S) **1.30 FILM: The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1939) (S) **3.20** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (R/S) **7.55 FILM: Scooby-Doo and the Alien Invaders** (2000) Animated adventure with the loveable canine and the Mystery Machine team. (S) **9.25 FILM: Aladdin** (1993) Animated version of the classic Arabian folk tale. (S) **11.10** The Nation's Favourite Christmas Song (R/S) **12.40** Text Santa (R/S) **1.15** News (S) **1.25 FILM: Toy Story** (1995) (S) **3.10 FILM: Tangled** (2010) (S) **5.00** You've Been Framed! at Christmas (S) **5.30** Emmerdale (S) **6.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas (S)
7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 Coronation Street (S)
8.30 News (S)
8.45 Downton Abbey The family receive a warm welcome at Duneagle Castle when they visit Rose and her parents in the Highlands. (S)
10.45 FILM: Couples Retreat (2009) (S) **12.55** Christmas Carols on ITV (R/S) **1.55** Pushing Daisies (R/S) **2.45** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Little Wolf (R/S) **6.30** Lost and Found (R/S) **6.55** Father Christmas (R/S) **7.25** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (R/S) **7.30** Simpsons (R/S) **8.20 FILM: Horton Hears a Who!** (2008) Animated film featuring the voice of Jim Carrey. (R/S) **10.00** Gordon's Christmas Cookalong Live (S) **1.55** The Snowman and the Snowdog (R/S) **2.25 FILM: Scrooged** (1988) Festive comedy starring Bill Murray and Carol Kane. (R/S) **4.25** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **5.40 FILM: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring** (2001) Award-winning epic fantasy drama based on JRR Tolkien's trilogy. (R/S)
9.00 Alan Carr Chatty Man Christmas Special (S)
10.00 Rude Tube (S)
11.05 C4's 30 Greatest Comedy Shows (R/S)
1.05 FILM: Airplane (1980) (R/S) **2.35** David Blaine - What is Magic? (R/S) **3.20** KOTV Boxing Weekly (S) **3.45** Extreme Sailing Series (S) **4.20** Ultimate Frisbee (R/S) **4.25** International Volleyball (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **8.55** Inside Hollywood **9.00 FILM: Gone with the Wind** (1939) Epic melodrama with Clark Gable, Vivien Leigh, Hattie McDaniel, Leslie Howard and Olivia de Havilland. (S) **1.15 FILM: Ben-Hur** (1959) Biblical epic with Charlton Heston and Jack Hawkins. (S) **5.25 FILM: The Santa Incident** (2010) (S)
7.05 Eddie Stobart's Christmas Cracker The iconic Eddie Stobart trucking company returns for a seasonal special. (R/S)
8.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks, Trailers and Tinsel (R/S)
9.00 Eddie Stobart: Christmas Delivery (R/S)
10.00 Greatest Christmas TV Moments A countdown of some of Christmas TV's greatest moments, including scenes from Morecambe and Wise and The Royle Family. (R/S)
1.00 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

WIN A CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR SIX

Your Waitrose Milton Keynes branch is relocating to a brand new, purpose-built site at Oakgrove which is expected to open May 2013 (just over the road from Oakgrove school).

To celebrate the move, **MK NEWS** has teamed up with Waitrose to offer this fantastic prize, which is sure to take some of the stress out of the Christmas preparations.

For the opportunity to win a Christmas dinner for six, with all the trimmings - including a Waitrose Free Range Turkey - simply answer this question:

Which well-known Milton Keynes lake is situated on an estate next to the Oakgrove site?

A) Furzton Lake

B) Willen Lake

C) Caldecotte Lake

Send your answer, together with your name, address and daytime telephone number, to **competitions@mk-news.co.uk or MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU.**
All entries must be received by noon on Friday, December 21. The editor's decision is final.

The Christmas opening hours at Waitrose are:

Thursday, December 20, 7.30am-10pm

Friday, December 21 and Saturday, December 22, 7am-10pm

Sunday, December 23, 11am-5pm

Monday, December 24, 7am-6pm

Tuesday, December 25 and Wednesday, December 26, CLOSED

Thursday, December 27 and Friday, December 28, 7.30am-9pm

Saturday, December 29, 8am-8pm

Sunday, December 30, 11am-5pm

Monday, December 31, 8am-6pm

Tuesday, January 1, CLOSED

Wednesday, January 2 and Thursday, January 3, 7.30am-9pm

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Christmas TV GUIDE

26th, 27th & 28th December

ALICE IN WONDERLAND
BBC1-6.50pm, Boxing Day

BOXING DAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** Cbeebies Panto (R/S) **9.45 FILM: Room on the Broom** Animation with Gillian Anderson and Rob Brydon. (R/S) **10.10 FILM: Madagascar Penguins in a Christmas Caper** (2005) (S) **10.25 FILM: Cars** (2006) (S) **12.40** Mr Stink (R/S) **1.40 FILM: Happy Feet** (2006) (S) **3.20 FILM: Enchanted** (2007) Fantasy adventure starring Amy Adams and Patrick Dempsey. (S) **5.00 FILM: How to Train Your Dragon** (2010) (S) **6.50 FILM: Alice in Wonderland** (2010) Tim Burton fantasy with Mia Wasikowska and Johnny Depp. (S)
8.30 EastEnders (S)
9.00 Miranda Penny threatens to cancel Miranda's Christmas if she does not sort her life out. (S)
9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special Agnes is determined to put on the greatest show on earth. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.20 The National Lottery (S)
10.25 Match of the Day (S)
12.00 FILM: Blades of Glory (2007) (S)
1.25 Weatherview (S) **1.30** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.00** The Great Rift: Africa's Wild Heart (R/S) **10.00** Attenborough: 60 Years in the Wild (R/S) **11.00** BBC Proms 2012: John Wilson on Broadway (R/S) **1.10** Darcey Bussell Dances Hollywood (R/S) **2.40 FILM: An American in Paris** (1951) Musical starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron. **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.30 FILM: Miss Potter** (2006) Drama starring Renée Zellweger and Ewan McGregor. (S)
7.00 Morecambe and Wise: Song and Dance Sketches (R/S)
8.00 Blackpool: Big Night Out (S)
9.00 The Girl Alfred Hitchcock sculpted Tippi Hedren into the perfect blonde of his imagination and then became obsessed with the dream of winning the real woman's love. (S)
10.30 FILM: Rebecca (1940) Psychological thriller starring Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine. (S)
12.35 Paul Merton Looks at Alfred Hitchcock (R/S) **1.35 FILM: Mr and Mrs Smith** (1941)
3.05 This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (S) **8.00** Horrid Henry (R/S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.25 FILM: The Railway Children** (1970) (S) **11.30** Dinner Date (S) **12.45 FILM: Land of the Lost** (2009) (S) **2.25** The Spice Girls Story: Viva Forever! (R/S) **3.55** This is Lionel Richie (R/S) **5.00** News (S) **5.15 FILM: Toy Story 2** Animated comedy sequel with the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen and Joan Cusack. (1999) (S)
7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 Coronation Street (S)
8.00 That Dog Can Dance! Christine Bleakley presents as the nation's most talented dancing dogs perform. (S)
9.00 Doors Open Adaptation of Ian Rankin's novel with Douglas Henshall, Stephen Fry and Kenneth Collard. (S)
11.15 FILM: Atonement (2007) (S)
1.25 Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Pantomime Special (R/S) **2.20 FILM: Every Which Way But Loose** (1978) (S) **4.15** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

5.25 FILM: Firehouse Dog (2007) (R/S) **7.35** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (R/S) **7.40** According to Jim (R/S) **8.10** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **8.40** The Morning Line (S) **9.40 FILM: Valiant** (2005) (R/S) **11.10** Simpsons (R/S) **12.15** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **1.15** Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park and Wetherby (S) **3.40 FILM: Turner & Hooch** (1989) (R/S) **5.40** Simpsons (R/S) **6.10** Hollyoaks (S) **6.55 FILM: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers** (2002) Part two of the epic trilogy with Elijah Wood, Sir Ian McKellen and Christopher Lee. (R/S)
10.30 FILM: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (2009) The original Swedish adaptation of the best-selling novel by Stieg Larsson. (S)
1.20 FILM: Airplane II: The Sequel (1982) Comedy sequel, spoofing the disaster movie genre starring Robert Hays and William Shatner. (S) **2.45** The Good Wife (S) **3.25** St. Elsewhere (R/S) **4.15** 90210 (S) **4.55** 90210 (S) **5.35** Deal Or No Deal (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.40** The Family Recipe (R/S) **9.50** Dallas (R/S) **10.40** Cowboy Builders (R/S) **11.40** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **12.40 FILM: The Greatest Story Ever Told** (1965) Biblical epic starring Max von Sydow, Dorothy McGuire, Charlton Heston and Michael Anderson Jr. (S) **4.30 FILM: Will You Merry Me?** (2008) Seasonal romantic comedy starring Wendie Malick, Cynthia Stevenson and Tommy Lioutas. (S)
6.15 Rolf's Animal Christmas (R/S)
7.15 TV's 50 Greatest Magic Tricks A countdown of the greatest TV magic tricks of all time. With Paul Daniels and Debbie McGee, and Dick and Dom (R/S)
10.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments 2012 This special programme takes a light-hearted look at the 50 most outrageous occurrences in the world of the rich and famous this year. (S)
12.50 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

THURSDAY DECEMBER 27

PRODUCED BY GLOBAL LISTINGS

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **8.00** Match of the Day (R/S) **9.30 FILM: The Thief Lord** (2006) (S) **11.00 FILM: 101 Dalmatians** (1996) (S) **12.40** News (S) **1.00** My Family Christmas Special (R/S) **1.50** Shrek: Donkey's Carolling Christmas-Tacular (S) **2.00 FILM: Bolt** (2008) (S) **3.25 FILM: Monsters vs Aliens** (2009) (S) **4.50** Dragons: Gift of the Night Fury (S) **5.15** Wallace and Gromit: A Grand Day Out (R/S) **5.40** Pointless Celebrities (S) **6.30** News (S)
7.00 Celebrity Mastermind With actress Crissy Rock, Paralympic gold medallist Hannah Cockroft, BBC correspondent Lizo Mzimba and crime writer Val McDermid.(S)
7.30 Have I Got News for You (S)
8.00 EastEnders (S)
9.00 Restless (S)
10.30 News (S)
10.55 Coldplay: World Tour 2012 (S)
11.55 FILM: Point Break (1991) (S)
1.55 Weatherview (S) **2.00** Sign Zone: Snow Babies (R/S) **3.00** Wartime Farm (R/S) **4.00** See Hear (R/S) **4.30** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.00** The Great Rift: Africa's Wild Heart (R/S) **10.00** Attenborough: 60 Years in the Wild (R/S) **11.00 FILM: Viva Knievel** (1977) **12.45** Racing from Chepstow: Welsh National (S) **3.05 FILM: Secretariat** (2010) (S) **4.55** Nature's Weirdest Events (R/S) **5.55 FILM: The Cockleshell Heroes** (1956) (S)
7.30 Dad's Army (R)
8.00 Racing Legends: Stirling Moss Hollywood actor Sir Patrick Stewart tells the enthralling story of Sir Stirling Moss's glittering race career.(S)
9.00 World's Most Dangerous Roads Angus Deayton and Mariella Frostrup drive up Madagascar's eastern coast during the tail end of the rainy season. (S)
10.00 Mock the Week (S)
11.00 Dragons' Den Christmas Special (R/S)
12.00 QI (R/S) **12.30** Hebburn (R/S)
1.00 Twenty Twelve (R/S) **1.30 FILM: This Land is Mine** (1943) **3.10** News (S) **4.30** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (S) **8.00** Horrid Henry (R/S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal (R/S) **10.25** Columbo (R/S) **11.55** Dinner Date (S) **1.10 FILM: Free Willy 3: The Rescue** (1997) (S) **2.50 FILM: Babe** (1995) (S) **4.30** Downton Abbey (R/S) **6.30** News (S)
7.00 Emmerdale The police question Debbie. Katie is rushed to hospital after collapsing in the pub. (S)
7.30 All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special Featuring an all-star Emmerdale team. (S)
8.30 Emmerdale (S)
9.00 Panto! Comedy drama set behind the scenes of a Lancashire pantomime production on its opening night. (S)
10.30 News (S)
10.45 FILM: The Holiday (2006) Romantic comedy starring Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet and Jude Law. (S)
1.20 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** Nightscreen (S) **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (R/S)

CHANNEL 4

6.30 The Hoobs. Double bill. (R/S) **7.20** Wilde Stories (R/S) **7.45** According to Jim (R/S) **8.15** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **8.45** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **9.50** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (S) **10.50** Simpsons (R/S) **11.50 FILM: Astro Boy** (2009) (S) **1.35 FILM: City of Ember** (2008) (S) **3.25** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **4.25** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Christmas Special (R/S) **5.30** Simpsons (R/S) **6.00** Hollyoaks (S) **6.30** News (R/S)
7.00 Mary's Bottom Line Can Mary sustain a successful business for future generations? (S)
8.00 The Hoarder Next Door Christmas Special (R/S)
9.00 The Restoration Man (S)
10.00 FILM: Dorian Gray (2009) (R/S)
12.10 FILM: The Girl Who Played with Fire (2009) (S) **2.25** The Good Wife (S)
3.50 FILM: Sunset Boulevard (1950) Billy Wilder's classic with William Holden, Gloria Swanson, and Erich Von Stroheim. (R/S) **5.45** 90210 (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.45** The Family Recipe (R/S) **9.55** Dallas (R/S) **10.50** Eddie Stobart: Trucks, Trailers and Tinsel (R/S) **11.50** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **12.50 FILM: Fiddler on the Roof** (1971) Oscar-winning musical starring Topol and Norma Crane about life in the Jewish community of a pre-revolutionary Russian village. (S)
4.20 FILM: It's Christmas, Carol! (2012) (S) **6.10** World's Biggest Pets (R/S)
7.05 Eddie Stobart: Christmas Delivery (R/S)
8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012 The 35th running of the international strongman competition from the grounds of the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles. (S)
9.00 FILM: Dirty Dancing (1987) (S)
11.05 FILM: You Don't Mess with the Zohan (2008) Comedy with Adam Sandler. (S)
1.05 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Housebusters (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

FRIDAY DECEMBER 28

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00 FILM: The Princess Diaries 2: The Royal Engagement** (2004) Romantic comedy with Anne Hathaway and Julie Andrews. **10.45 FILM: 102 Dalmatians** (2000) (S) **12.45** My Family Christmas Special (R/S) **1.35 FILM: Race to Witch Mountain** (2009) Family fantasy adventure starring Dwayne Johnson. (S) **3.10 FILM: Legend of the Boneknapper Dragon** (S) **3.30 FILM: The Sorcerer's Apprentice** (2010) (S) **5.10** Wallace and Gromit: The Wrong Trousers (R/S) **5.40** Pointless Celebrities (R/S) **6.30** News (S)
7.00 Celebrity Mastermind (S)
7.30 The One Show on Ice: Best of 2012 (S)
8.00 Holby City (S)
9.00 Restless (S)
10.30 News (S)
10.55 The National Lottery (S)
11.00 Take That: Progress Live (R/S)
12.20 Weatherview (S) **12.25** SZ: Tamara Drewe (R/S) **2.05** James May's Toy Stories (R/S) **3.05** Countryfile (R/S) **4.05** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.05** The Great Rift: Africa's Wild Heart (R/S) **10.05** Attenborough: 60 Years in the Wild (R/S) **11.05 FILM: The Lady Vanishes** (1938) **12.40 FILM: The Thirty Nine Steps** (1935) **2.05 FILM: Notorious** (1946) **3.45** Flog It (R/S) **4.30 FILM: The Four Feathers** (2002) Drama with Heath Ledger and Kate Hudson. (S)
6.30 Nature's Weirdest Events (R/S)
7.30 Blackadder the Third (R)
8.00 Racing Legends: Colin McRae (S)
9.00 World's Most Dangerous Roads Hugh and Jessica head out on a terrifying road trip through the former Russian state of Georgia. (S)
10.00 QI (S)
10.30 Andy Parsons Gruntled Live Politically inspired bemusements and personal anecdotes from one of Britain's sharpest comedians. (S)
11.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks (R/S)
12.00 Hebburn (R/S) **12.30** Twenty Twelve (R/S) **1.30 FILM: Abbott and Costello Meet Captain Kidd** (1952) **2.40** News (S) **4.35** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.35 FILM: The Perfect Man** (2005) (S) **9.25** Tipping Point (R/S) **10.25** May the Best House Win (R/S) **11.20** Dinner Date (S) **12.45 FILM: Doc Hollywood** (1991) (S) **2.45 FILM: Babe: Pig in the City** (1998) Family adventure starring Magda Szubanski and James Cromwell. (S) **4.30 FILM: Peter Pan** (2003) (S) **6.35** News (S)
7.00 Emmerdale Cain accuses Moira of trying to make him jealous. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street (S)
8.00 You've Been Framed! (R/S)
8.30 The Corrie Years Special programme looking at some of the memorable stories that took place around Christmas time on the cobbles. (S)
9.00 It'll Be Alright on the Night Presented by Griff Rhys Jones. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.15 FILM: Gremlins (1984) (S)
12.15 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00 FILM: Dave** (1993) (S) **4.50** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.25 Sali Mali (R/S) **6.30** The Treacle People (R/S) **6.40** The Hoobs (R/S) **7.05** Wilde Stories (R/S) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **8.00** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **9.05** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (S) **10.05** Simpsons (R/S) **11.05 FILM: Planet 51** (2009) (S) **12.45 FILM: Zulu** (1964) (R/S) **3.30** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **4.30** Simpsons (R/S) **5.25** Hollyoaks. Double bill. (S)
6.30 News (S)
7.00 My Big Fat Gypsy Christmas (R/S)
8.00 Jamie & Jimmy's Food Fight Club Gary Barlow pops in to cook steak and ale pie, and the boys head to Belgium for the booze-off. (S)
9.00 The 50 Funniest Moments of 2012 Stacey Solomon, Rob Beckett, and a sackful of comedians take a look back over 2012. (S)
11.05 Friday Night Dinner (R/S)
11.40 2012: Mashed (S)
12.45 FILM: The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets' Nest (2009) (S) **3.10 FILM: Niagara** (1953) (R/S) **4.35** 90210 (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.40** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **9.55** Dallas (R/S) **10.50** Eddie Stobart: Trucks, Trailers and Tinsel (R/S) **11.55** World's Biggest Pets (R/S) **12.55** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **1.50 FILM: Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan** (2010) (S) **3.40 FILM: A Carol Christmas** (2003) (S) **5.20 FILM: Santa Junior** (2002) Fantasy comedy with Lauren Holly, George Wallace and Judd Nelson. (S)
7.05 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)
8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012 (S)
9.00 The Mentalist The CBI team investigate the murder of an estate agent with former gang ties. (S)
10.00 Castle Castle competes with Detective Demming in a race to solve a murder. (S)
11.00 Castle (S)
11.55 Inside Hollywood (R)
12.00 Supercasino **3.50** Motorsport Mundial **4.20** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.45** The Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Double bill. (R/S)

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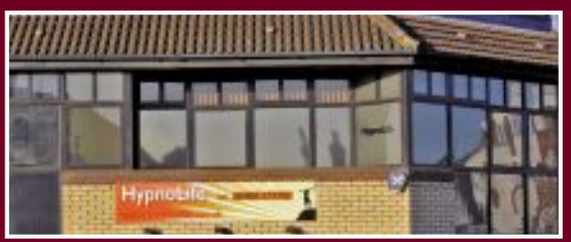

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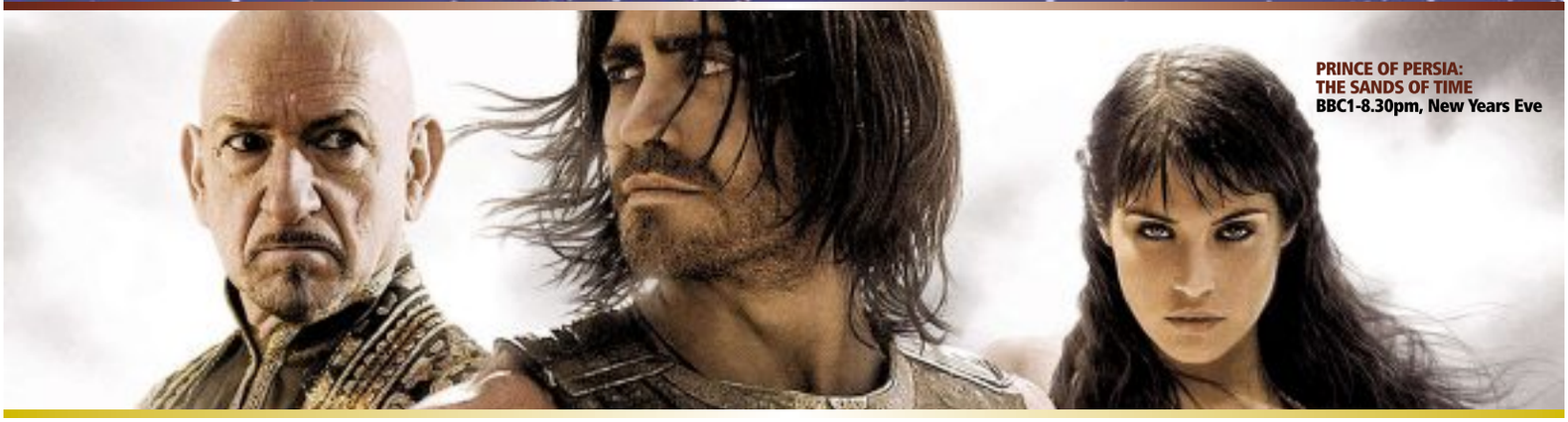
Christmas TV GUIDE

29th, 30th & 31st December



PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE SANDS OF TIME
BBC1-8.30pm, New Years Eve

SATURDAY DECEMBER 29

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen (S) **11.30** Nigel Slater's New Year Suppers (R/S) **12.15** Football Focus (S) **1.00** Formula 1: 2012 - What a Year (S) **2.00** Olympics 2012: A Golden Games (R/S) **3.00** Olympics 2012: Through the Lens (S) **3.30** Sport Relief 2012: The Final Score (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.45** Celebrity Mastermind (S) **6.15** A Question of Sport: Christmas Special (S) **6.45** Superstars 2012 (S)

8.15 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune (S)
9.10 News (S)
9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special It may be a time for peace and goodwill, but there is trouble brewing in the Brown household this Christmas. (R/S)
10.00 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special Agnes Brown is determined to put on the greatest show on Earth. (R/S)
10.30 Match of the Day (S)
12.00 The Football League Show (S)
1.15 Weatherview (S) **1.20** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **12.15 FILM: Flight of the Navigator** (1986) (S) **1.40 FILM: Flubber** (1997) Children's comedy starring Robin Williams and Marcia Gay Harden. (S) **3.05** Escape to the Country (R/S) **4.05** Flog It (R/S) **5.05** John Le Mesurier: It's All Been Rather Lovely (R/S) **6.05** Clive Dunn: A Tribute (R/S) **6.45 FILM: Dad's Army** (1971) Feature-length version of the classic sitcom starring Arthur Lowe. (S)

8.15 Climbed Every Mountain: The Story Behind The Sound of Music Sue Perkins travels to Salzburg, Ellis Island and Vermont to discover how the family behind the film made a living in America as the Trapp Family Singers. (S)
9.15 FILM: The Duchess (2008) Period drama starring Keira Knightley and Ralph Fiennes. (S)
11.00 QI XL (R/S)
11.45 God Bless Ozzy Osbourne (R/S)
1.20 FILM: Carry On England (1976) Classic comedy with Kenneth Connor and Windsor Davies. **2.45** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.35** The Hive (R/S) **7.05** Fleabag Monkeyface (R/S) **7.25** Almost Naked Animals (R/S) **8.05** Horrid Henry (R/S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.30** Dinner Date (R/S) **10.30** Dickinson's Real Deal (R/S) **11.30** The Unforgettable Leonard Rossiter (R/S) **12.10** Holiday Home Sweet Home. Double bill. (S) **2.10 FILM: Carry on Screaming** (1966) (S) **4.00** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** 30 Years of CITV (S)

7.30 I Love You've Been Framed (S)
8.30 Dale's Great Getaway TV favourite Dale Winton presents a fun-filled Christmas spectacular. (S)
9.30 FILM: Love Actually (2003) Romantic comedy with Hugh Grant and Keira Knightley. (S)
10.30 News (S)
10.45 FILM: Love Actually (2003) (S)
12.20 FILM: Parenthood (1989) Comedy drama with Steve Martin and Dianne Wiest. (S) **2.25** Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** In Plain Sight (R/S) **3.40** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sali Mali (R/S) **6.05** The Treacle People (R/S) **6.15** The Three Worlds of Gulliver (R/S) **7.55** The Morning Line (S) **8.45 FILM: Space Chimps** (2008) (S) **10.35 FILM: Garfield 2: A Tale of Two Kitties** (2006) (R/S) **12.20** Simpsons (R/S) **1.30** C4 Racing from Newbury and Doncaster (S) **3.30** Deal Or No Deal's Big Christmas Dinner (S) **4.25** Celebrity Come Dine with Me. Four episodes. (R/S) **6.35** News (S) **6.50** Stephen Fry: Gadget Man Christmas Special (R/S)

7.20 FILM: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) Final part of the epic fantasy adventure trilogy starring Elijah Wood and Sir Ian McKellen. (R/S)
11.10 FILM: Wuthering Heights (2011) Film adaptation of Emily Bronte's classic novel starring Kaya Scodelario and James Howson. (S)
1.35 FILM: Chocolat (2000) Romantic drama with Juliette Binoche, Johnny Depp and Judi Dench. (S) **3.40** 90210 (S) **4.20** 90210 (S) **5.00** Deal Or No Deal (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.40** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **10.00** Meerkat Manor (R/S) **10.30** Dallas (R/S) **11.25** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **12.25** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **1.25 FILM: It's a Very Merry Muppet Christmas Movie** (2002) David Arquette, Whoopi Goldberg, Joan Cusack, Matthew Lillard and William H Macy star in this seasonal Muppet movie. (S) **3.10 FILM: Grounded** (2006) (S) **4.55 FILM: Richie Rich's Christmas Wish** (1998) Comedy with David Gallagher, Eugene Levy and Martin Mull. (S) **6.30 FILM: Snow White** (2001) Fairy tale starring Kristin Kreuk and Miranda Richardson. (S)

8.10 News (S)
8.15 World's Strongest Man 2012 (S)
9.15 FILM: Stephen King's Bag of Bones (2011) Horror based on Stephen King's 1998 award-winning novel starring Pierce Brosnan. (S)
12.20 Supercasino **4.00** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S) **4.25** The Great Artists (R/S) **4.50** Rough Guide to Islands (R/S) **5.05** Milkshake

SUNDAY DECEMBER 30

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **8.05** Match of the Day (R/S) **9.40 FILM: Eight Below** (2006) Adventure drama starring Paul Walker and Bruce Greenwood. (S) **11.30** Snow Babies (R/S) **12.40** Countryfile (R/S) **1.40 FILM: Bedknobs and Broomsticks** (1971) Classic Disney fantasy starring Angela Lansbury. (S) **3.30** Call the Midwife (R/S) **4.50** Songs of Praise: Celebrating 2012 Big Sing (S) **5.30** Wild Weather in 2012: West (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Celebrity Mastermind (S)

7.00 Countryfile (S)
8.00 Antiques Roadshow (S)
9.00 Ripper Street A young woman is found brutally murdered, the hallmark signs of the Ripper upon her. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.25 Match of the Day 2 (S)
11.25 Sport Relief 2012: The Final Score (R/S)
12.25 FILM: Open Range (2003) (S) **2.40** Weatherview (S) **2.45** Sign Zone: Climbed Every Mountain: The Story Behind the Sound of Music (R/S) **3.45** Holby City (R/S) **4.45** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.30** 12 Again (R/S) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) **11.30** The Great British Bake Off Masterclass (R/S) **12.30** EastEnders (R/S) **3.30** Space Dive (R/S) **5.00 FILM: Force 10 from Navarone** (1978) World War II action starring Robert Shaw and Harrison Ford.

7.00 James May's Toy Stories: Flight Club (R/S)
8.00 Dara O'Briain's Science Club (S)
9.00 Neil Armstrong: First Man on the Moon Drawing on unbroadcasted archive material and interviews with those closest to him, the film goes beyond the moon landing to reveal the man behind the myth. (S)
10.00 FILM: Moon (2009) Psychological thriller starring Sam Rockwell and Matt Berry. (S)
11.30 FILM: Blade Runner (2007) Sci-fi thriller starring Harrison Ford and Rutger Hauer. (S)
1.20 Dangerous Days: On the Edge of Blade Runner (R/S) **3.05** News (S) **4.45** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.10 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.35** Signed Stories (R/S) **7.05** Fleabag Monkeyface (R/S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (R/S) **8.00** Big Time Rush (S) **8.30** Fort Boyard (S) **9.25** There's No Taste Like Home (R/S) **10.25** Dinner Date (R/S) **11.25** Dickinson's Real Deal (R/S) **12.25** All Star Family Fortunes (R/S) **1.15 FILM: Carry on Girls** (1973) (S) **3.00 FILM: Tea with Mussolini** (1999) Drama with Cher, Judi Dench and Joan Plowright. (S) **5.15** Joanna Lumley (R/S) **6.35** News (S)

7.00 Super Famous Animals A look at the world of the superstar animals, including Britain's Got Talent winners Ashleigh and Pudsey. (S)
8.00 Wild at Heart The new year does not bring good news for Du Plessis when he visits his doctor. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.15 A Night with Beyonce (R/S)
11.30 Rugby Highlights (S)
12.25 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** River Monsters (R/S) **3.50** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

5.55 The Hoobs (R/S) **6.20 FILM: Dr. Dolittle: Million Dollar Mutts** (2009) (S) **7.45 FILM: Dr. Dolittle 3** (2006) (R/S) **9.30** Sunday Brunch (S) **11.40** The Big Bang Theory (S) **12.10** Simpsons (R/S) **12.40 FILM: Clash of the Titans** (1981) (R/S) **2.55 FILM: Edward Scissorhands** (1990) (R/S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** The Art of the Snowman and the Snowdog (R/S) **5.35** The Snowman and the Snowdog (R/S) **6.05** How the Snowman Came Back to Life (S)

7.00 Come Dine with Me (S)
8.00 The Hotel (S)
9.00 Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2012 Jimmy Carr puts a panel of celebrities to the test as they battle it out to see who remembers most about 2012. (S)
11.05 The Last Leg of the Year A review and celebration of 2012. (S)
12.10 Alan Carr Chatty Man Christmas Special (R/S) **1.10** American Football (S) **4.45** Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind (R/S) **5.00** Freesports on 4 (R/S) **5.25** The Enduroman Arch to Arc Triathlon (R/S) **5.50** Extreme Sailing Series (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.40** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **9.50** Meerkat Manor (R/S) **10.20** Dallas (R/S) **11.15** Eddie Stobart's Christmas Cracker (R/S) **12.20** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **1.15 FILM: Lost Holiday: The Jim and Suzanne Shemwell Story** (2007) (S) **3.05 FILM: Ivanhoe** (1952) (S) **5.05 FILM: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers** (1954) (S)

7.05 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers A Stobart truck has to go the distance in Ireland and Elliott has to perform a tricky delivery in Yorkshire. (R/S)
7.55 News (S)
8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012 The 35th running of the international strongman competition from the grounds of the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles. (S)
9.00 An Audience with Ken Dodd (R/S)
11.00 FILM: The Man Who Sued God (2000) Comedy with Billy Connolly. (S)
1.00 Supercasino **4.00** House Doctor (R/S) **4.45** Rough Guide (R/S) **5.05** Milkshake

NEW YEAR'S EVE

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00 FILM: Muppet Treasure Island** (1996) (S) **10.30 FILM: G-Force** (2009) (S) **11.50 FILM: Kung Fu Panda Holiday** (2010) (S) **12.40** Total Wipeout: The Awards (S) **1.40 FILM: Bedtime Stories** (2008) (S) **3.10 FILM: The Sound of Music** (1965) (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Celebrity Mastermind (S)

7.00 Top of the Pops 2012: New Year's Eve Fearne Cotton and Reggie Yates present a celebration of the big hits of the year. (S)
8.00 EastEnders (S)
8.30 FILM: Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (2010) Fantasy adventure starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Gemma Arterton. (S)
10.20 News (S)
10.35 The Graham Norton Show (S)
11.40 New Year Live Gabby Logan rings in 2013 with the chimes of Big Ben and the spectacular fireworks display. (S)
12.15 John Bishop: The Sunshine Tour (S) **1.25 FILM: Scary Movie 4** (2006) (S) **2.40** Weatherview (S) **2.45** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.00** Operation Iceberg. Double bill. (R/S) **11.00** The Great British Bake Off. Double bill. (R/S) **1.00** Escape to the Country (R/S) **1.45** Flog It (R/S) **2.50 FILM: The Red Baron** (2008) War drama starring Til Schweiger and Lena Headey. (S) **4.30** Great Continental Railway Journeys (R/S) **5.30** Christmas University Challenge (S) **6.00** Climbed Every Mountain: The Story Behind the Sound of Music (R/S)

7.00 FILM: Catch Me if You Can (2002) True crime story starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks. (S)
9.15 FILM: Julie & Julia (2009) Dual biopic starring Meryl Streep and Amy Adams. (S)
11.10 Jools' Annual Hootenanny Jools' guests include Emeli Sande, Bobby Womack, Adam Ant, Paloma Faith, Ruby Turner, Petula Clark, and the Pipes and Drums of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards. (S)
1.40 Best Bits @ Hackney 2012 (R/S) **2.40** Reading Festival 2012: Highlights (R/S) **4.15** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.05** Fleabag Monkeyface (S) **7.20** Almost Naked Animals (S) **7.35 FILM: From Time to Time** (2009) (S) **9.25** Dinner Date (S) **10.25 FILM: War Games** (1983) (S) **12.40** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **2.35** The Unforgettable John Thaw (R/S) **3.35** Just Henry (R/S) **5.35** News (S) **6.00** Wild at Heart - Filming with Animals (S)

7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Tyrone struggles to get away as Fiz's life hangs in the balance. (S)
8.00 You've Been Framed! (R/S)
8.30 Coronation Street (S)
9.00 2012: A Funny Old Year Jason Manford is joined by an all-star cast of stand-up comics to discuss the events of past the year. (S)
10.00 FILM: Bridget Jones's Diary (2001) Romantic comedy starring Renee Zellweger and Hugh Grant. (S)
11.45 News (S)
12.05 FILM: Fletch (1985) (S) **1.40** Pushing Daisies (R/S) **2.25** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.35 FILM: Happily N'Ever After** (2006) (S) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. Double bill. (R/S) **8.55** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (S) **11.00** Simpsons (R/S) **12.00 FILM: Son of the Mask** (2005) (R/S) **1.45 FILM: Entrapment** (1999) (R/S) **4.00** Deal Or No Deal (R/S) **5.00** Simpsons (R/S) **5.25** Hollyoaks (S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Come Dine with Me Top 30 The Come Dine with Me vault has been ransacked to count down the 30 best bits ever. (S)
9.00 Alan Carr's New Year Specstacular Alan Carr welcomes in 2013 with unpredictable madness, party games and many special guests. (S)
11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats (S)
11.50 House Party: NYE After this summer's bank holiday smash hit, the party is back for the ultimate 2012 send off. With DJ sets by Annie Mac and Norman Jay. (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.35** Dallas (R/S) **10.30** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **11.35** Eddie Stobart: Christmas Delivery (R/S) **12.35** Once Upon a Time (R/S) **1.30 FILM: The Man from the Alamo** (1953) (S) **3.10 FILM: Cheyenne Autumn** (1964) (S) **6.00** The All New Gadget Show (S)

7.05 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)
8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012 The 35th running of the international strongman competition from the grounds of the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles. (S)
9.00 Britain's Funniest Comedy Characters A countdown of the nation's 50 favourite comedy characters, including the likes of David Brent, Basil Fawlty, and Little Britain's Lou and Andy. (R/S)
11.55 NCIS (R/S)
12.55 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.45** Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S) **5.35** Nick's Quest (R/S)

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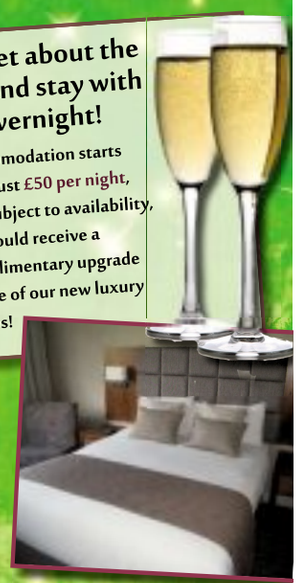

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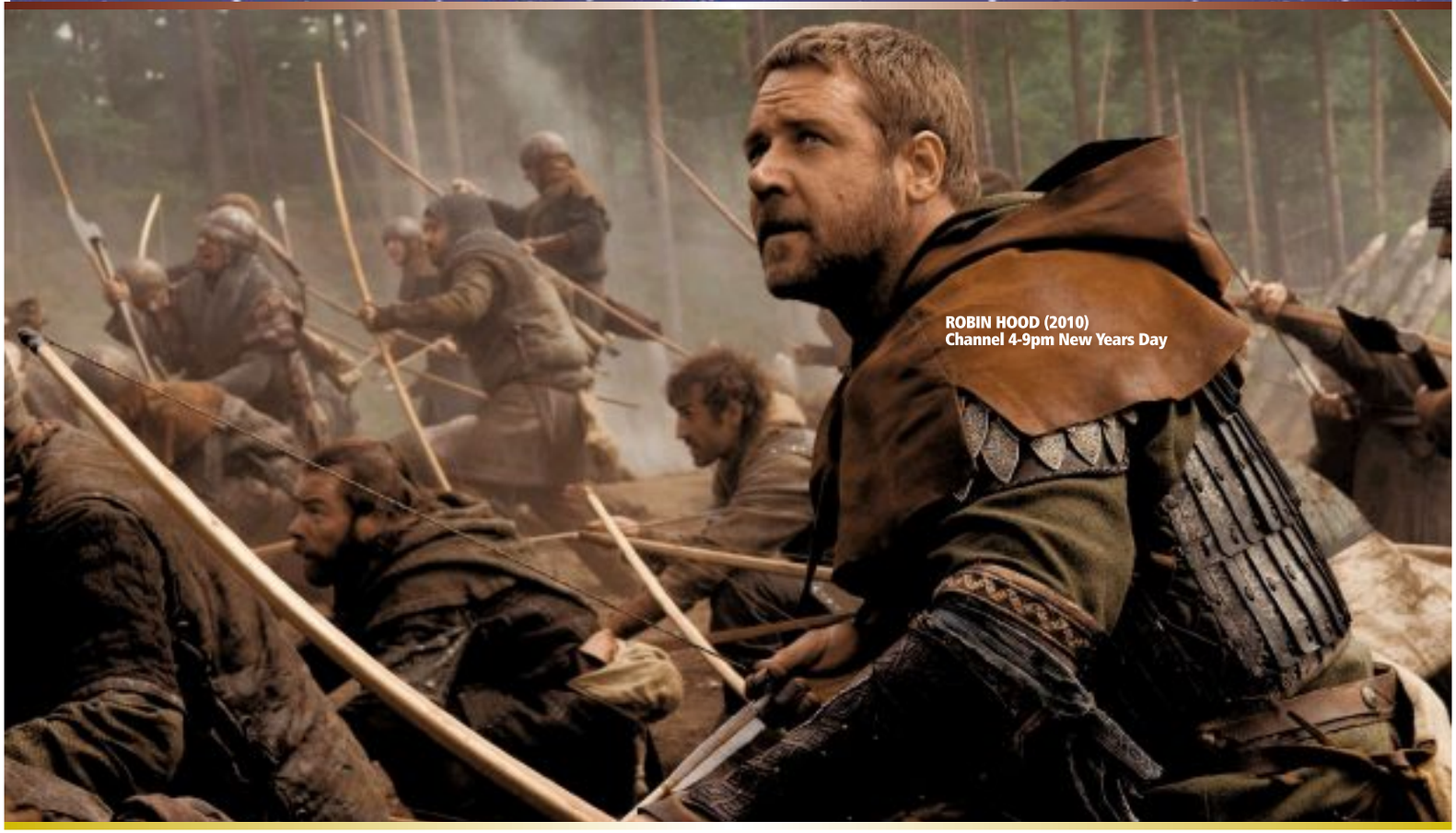
Christmas TV GUIDE

1st & 2nd January



ROBIN HOOD (2010)
Channel 4-9pm New Years Day

NEW YEAR'S DAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00 FILM: Hotel for Dogs** (2009) (S) **10.35 FILM: Three Men and a Little Lady** (1990) Comedy sequel with Ted Danson, Tom Selleck and Steve Guttenberg. (S) **12.15** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message (S) **12.45** Frozen Planet: The Epic Journey (R/S) **1.45 FILM: Mary Poppins** (1964) Disney classic with Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. (S) **4.00 FILM: The Princess and the Frog** (2009) (S) **5.35** News (S) **6.00** Celebrity Mastermind (S) **6.30 FILM: Up** (2009) Family animation starring Edward Asner and Christopher Plummer. (S)

8.00 EastEnders (S)
9.00 Miranda Penny embarrasses Miranda by running for councillor with Tilly as her wingman. (S)
9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys The family celebrate the baptism of Dermot and Maria's triplets with a party. (S)

10.00 News (S)
10.25 Match of the Day (S)
11.45 The Graham Norton Show (R/S)
12.45 Weatherview (S) **12.50** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.15** The Great British Bake Off. Double bill. (R/S) **11.15** New Year's Day Concert 2013 (S) **12.45 FILM: Dances with Wolves** (1990) (S) **3.35** Great Continental Railway Journeys (R/S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.25** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message (R/S) **5.30** Goodbye to Canterbury (S) **6.30** Christmas University Challenge (S)

7.00 Hairy Dieters: How to Love Food and Lose Weight (R/S)
8.00 Nature's Weirdest Events (S)
9.00 Queen Victoria's Children Focusing on Victoria's relationship with Prince Albert and their attempts to project a modern image of the royal family. (S)
10.00 Charlie Brooker's 2012 Wipe A comedic look back at 2012, with added extras from Doug Stanhope, Brian Limond and Sharon Horgan. (S)

11.00 QI (R/S)
11.30 I'm in a Boy Band (R/S)
12.30 Hebburn (R/S) **1.00** Twenty Twelve (R/S) **1.30 FILM: Count the Hours** (1953)
2.45 This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R/S) **6.30** The Hive (R/S) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface (R/S) **7.30** Almost Naked Animals (S) **8.00** Horrid Henry (R/S) **8.30** Victorious (S) **9.00** Share a Story (S) **9.25 FILM: Dragonheart** (1996) (S) **11.15** Dancing on Ice Goes Gold (R/S) **1.25 FILM: Pride & Prejudice** (2005) (S) **3.45** Elizabeth (R/S) **4.50** Les Miserables Movie Special (S) **5.45** News (S) **6.00** River Monsters (S) **6.30** Emmerdale (S)

7.00 Royal Babies (S)
8.00 Celebrity Who Wants to Be A Millionaire? New Year Special Celebrity contestants attempt to win that magical million. (S)
9.00 Gary Barlow and Friends Gary Barlow is joined by some superstar friends including Peter Kay, James Corden and JLS for a musical spectacular at the Apollo. (S)

10.15 News (S)
10.30 FILM: King Kong (2005) (S)
1.40 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00** Pushing Daisies (R/S) **3.45** Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 FILM: The Neverending Story II: The Next Chapter (1990) (R/S) **7.20** Everybody Loves Raymond. Double bill. (R/S) **8.25** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **9.25** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R/S) **10.30 FILM: Oliver Twist** (2005) (R/S) **1.00** C4 Racing from Cheltenham and Musselburgh (S) **3.30** Deal Or No Deal (S) **4.30 FILM: The Wizard of Oz** (1939) (S) **6.25** News (S) **6.30** Celebrity Deal Or No Deal (S)

7.30 Frankie Howerd: The Lost Tapes Twenty years after his death, this documentary reveals never-before-seen footage of one of the country's most popular comedy stars. (S)
9.00 FILM: Robin Hood (2010) Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett and Mark Strong star in director Ridley Scott's retelling of the classic myth. (S)

11.45 Rude Tube (R/S)
12.50 The Last Leg of the Year (R/S) **1.45 FILM: Bug** (2006) (S) **3.30** St. Elsewhere (R) **4.15** Smallville (R/S) **5.00** Made in Chelsea End of Season Party (S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **10.30** Dallas (R/S) **11.25 FILM: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers** (1954) Musical starring Howard Keel, Jane Powell and Jeff Richards. (S) **1.30 FILM: Ben-Hur** (1959) Biblical epic with Charlton Heston and Jack Hawkins. (S) **5.40 FILM: The Dam Busters** (1954) War drama with Michael Redgrave, Ursula Jeans, Basil Sydney, Patrick Barr and Ernest Clark. (S)

8.00 World's Strongest Man 2012 The 35th running of the international strongman competition from the grounds of the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles. (S)
9.00 50 Shocking Facts About Diet and Exercise The shocking truth behind what we eat and the often dangerous and misguided methods we adopt in order to lose weight. (S)
11.05 FILM: The Craft (1996) Supernatural thriller starring Robin Tunney and Neve Campbell. (S)

1.05 Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.45** Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest. Double bill. (R/S)

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Wanted Down Under (S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (S) **11.00** Saints and Scroungers (R/S) **11.45** Cowboy Trap (S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (S) **1.00** News (S) **1.45** Doctors (S) **2.15** The Two Ronnies Sketchbook (R/S) **2.45** Escape to the Country (R/S) **3.45** Perfection (S) **4.30** Flog It (S) **5.15** Pointless (S) **6.00** News(S)

7.00 Celebrity Mastermind (S)
7.30 Wallace and Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death (R/S)
8.00 Holby City (S)
9.00 Africa David Attenborough takes a breathtaking journey through the vast and diverse continent of Africa as it has never been seen before. (S)

10.00 News (S)
10.35 A Question of Sport (S)
11.05 Match of the Day (S)
12.10 FILM: Disturbia (2007) Tense thriller with Shia LaBeouf and Carrie-Anne Moss. (S) **1.45** Weatherview (S) **1.50** Sign Zone: Rome's Lost Empire (R/S) **3.10** Inside Claridge's (R/S) **4.10** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies **9.00 FILM: Underdog** (2007) (S) **10.15** Coast (R/S) **10.45** The Great British Bake Off. Double bill. (R/S) **12.45** Great British Food Revival (R/S) **1.15** The Weakest Link: Sporting Heroes Special (R/S) **2.15** Inside Claridge's (R/S) **3.15 FILM: The Cheyenne Social Club** (1970) **5.00** Great Continental Railway Journeys (R/S) **6.00** Eggheads (S) **6.30** Christmas University Challenge (S)

7.00 Hairy Dieters: How to Love Food and Lose Weight (R/S)
8.00 Nature's Weirdest Events Chris visits the town that woke up to an apocalyptic sky. (S)
9.00 Queen Victoria's Children After Albert's death, Victoria clung to and bullied her daughters and arranged their marriages. (S)

10.00 Mock the Week (R/S)
11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks (R/S)
11.30 I'm in a Girl Group! (R/S)
12.30 Hebburn (R/S) **1.00** Twenty Twelve (R/S) **1.30 FILM: The Big Steal** (1949)
2.40 News (S) **4.10** This is BBC Two (S)

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Loose Women (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** Dinner Date (R/S) **3.00** Dickinson's Real Deal (R/S) **4.00** Tipping Point (S) **5.00** The Chase (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Katie wonders if she should leave Declan. Zak and Lisa are worried by Belle's behaviour. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Tommy makes a sacrifice to protect Tyrone. (S)
8.00 Midsomer Murders When Stella's more famous sister returns killings escalate, each of them reminiscent of a movie plot. (S)

10.00 News (S)
10.35 2012: A Funny Old Year (R/S)
11.35 Safari Vet School The students get their first taste of life on the game reserve. (R/S)

12.05 Jackpot247 (S) **3.00 FILM: Bonnie and Clyde** (1967) Drama starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway. (S)
4.55 Nightscreen (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.10** The Hoobs (R/S) **7.05** Will & Grace (R/S) **7.30** According to Jim (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. Double bill. (R/S) **8.55** Frasier. Double bill. (R/S) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. Double bill. (R/S) **10.55** Simpsons (R/S) **11.25 FILM: The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad** (1958) (R/S) **1.10 FILM: Doctor Dolittle** (1967) (R/S) **4.00** Deal Or No Deal (S) **5.00** Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 Gok's Style Secrets Gok Wan is back with a new makeover series. (S)
9.00 One Born Every Minute (S)
10.00 Secrets of a Good Marriage with Sharon Horgan Sharon Horgan gatecrashes six marriages and a wedding in a bid to open up the private world of husband and wife. (S)
11.05 The 50 Funniest Moments of 2012 (R/S)

1.05 FILM: Rosemary's Baby (1968) (R/S) **3.25 FILM: Destination Moon** (1950) (R/S) **5.05** Deal Or No Deal (R/S)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake **9.45** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **9.50** Meerkat Manor (R/S) **10.20** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **11.25** CSI: Miami (R/S) **12.30** The Mentalist (R/S) **1.25** Chinese Food in Minutes (R/S) **1.35 FILM: Reversible Errors** (2004) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Emergency Bikers (R/S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)
8.00 World's Craziest Police Pursuits 5 A cop's-eye view of the madness and mayhem caused when bad motorists turn into fugitives trying to outrun the police. (S)
9.00 FILM: Elektra (2005) Sci-fi action adventure with Jennifer Garner. (S)
11.00 FILM: Wind Chill (2007) Thriller with Emily Blunt, Ashton Holmes and Martin Donovan. (S)

12.45 Forensic Files (R/S) **1.10** Supercasino **3.55** House Doctor (R/S) **4.20** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.45** Great Artists (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest (R/S) **5.35** Nick's Quest (R/S)

Christmas TV GUIDE

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES
Batman saves the day

ARGO
Ben Affleck also saves the day and some Americans too!

TOP FILMS OF 2012

It has been a golden year for films, so dim the lights open the popcorn and take a look back at some of the best films of 2012

ARGO

Ben Affleck directs this political thriller, and he does an outstanding job. Argo tells the story of how six diplomats were rescued from the Iranian Hostage Crisis in 1979 using an elaborate cover story which passed them off as film-makers. An exciting, tense and dramatic movie which is well worth a watch.

SKYFALL

Bond returned this year and he did not disappoint.
Daniel Craig is fast staking his claim as the greatest ever 007 and in Skyfall he put in a rip-roaring performance. This was Classic Bond was one of the cinema events of the year.

LIFE OF PI

Based on the book of the same name, Life of Pi charts the story of a young boy who, after an accident at sea, finds himself stranded on a lifeboat with a tiger, hyena, zebra and orangutan.
It might sound a bit strange but Yann Martel's book won the Booker Prize for fiction and the film does it justice.

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES

The Caped Crusader has been in many films but few can be as good as this one.
Christian Bale again plays the man in black who starts the film in a state of retirement.
He is quickly drawn back into action by the criminal underworld though and we should be glad as what follows is an epic action flick.

THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

Let's face it, we'd been waiting for this one ever since the credits rolled on the last Lord of the Rings film.
A lot of people were worried that the return to Middle Earth wouldn't live up to the hype but, fortunately, Peter Jackson does an excellent job.
It is like we've never been away.

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK

This is another film which is based on a novel, and although many people believe the books are always better, the opposite could be true in this case. After being released from a mental institution, Pat moves back in with his parents and tries to patch things up with his ex-wife. However, he soon meets Tiffany, a girl who has problems of her own.

SantaLand

Ho Ho Ho! Join Santa and the Elves at Mead Open Farm, daily from 24 Nov to 23 Dec.

Meet Santa in his Grotto and choose a gift from his Toy Shop*, walk through the Winter Wonderland, meet REAL Reindeer (New for 2012) and more!

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Duties of the Administration and Resource Manager are wide and varied and include administration in support of the Human Resource and Performance Management function, confidential word-processing, data input, minute taking and other general administration duties, along with the organisation and supervision of a small team.

You will have demonstrable experience of office practices and procedures and the ability to use word-processing and spreadsheet packages. Numeracy skills are essential as duties include processing and analysing data.

If you would like to join our team and can work to strict deadlines and targets whilst dealing politely and tactfully with a wide range of people, we would like to hear from you.

If you believe you have the knowledge and competencies required for this position, please send a letter of application and full CV to Helen Barnett, Chief Executive, Active Luton, Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Valley Park, Eaton Green Road, Luton LU2 9JB. Alternatively these can be emailed to info@activeluton.co.uk.

A job description and person specification can be downloaded from www.activeluton.co.uk.

Closing date Sunday 6th January 2013

Interviews will be held week commencing Monday 14th January 2013

Only successful candidates will be contacted

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BEDFORD GIRLS SCHOOL

Closing Date ***Wed 2nd Jan 2013***

Accounts Manager

Salary: £29,055-£32,235 p.a dependant on experience.

We are seeking a full time Accounts Manager with significant experience of Accounts and Payroll gained in a customer focused environment. You will have effective leadership and staff management skills combined with excellent IT, organisational and administrative skills.

The successful applicant will be at least a part-qualified accountant, hold an AAT qualification or be qualified through relevant experience.

An application form and detailed job description and person specification can be downloaded from the Connected Community / Employment Opportunities link on our website **www.bedfordgirlsschool.co.uk** or requested by email from **hr@bedfordgirlsschool.co.uk**

The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced DBS check (previously CRB). The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Bedford Girls' School is Part of The Harpur Trust

ABBEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mowbray Road, MK42 9XA

We are looking to appoint from January 2013; a

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for both KS2 and KS3 pupils.

A FULL TIME TEACHER OF MATHS

to teach in KS3 at Years 7 and 8

Both of these appointments will be on fixed term contracts until 31st August 2014

In addition we are looking to appoint a

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Through the school's excellent continuing professional development programme there are opportunities to gain experience in teaching to GCSE and A level standard.

We are also looking to appoint a temporary

RECEPTIONIST / ADMIN ASSISTANT

To cover for long term absence to undertake reception duties, deal with general enquiries and act as first point of contact for parents and visitors. Visits are welcomed from all applicants.

To make an appointment please contact: Mr John Hinson (Business Manager) on 01234 264171 or email: hinsonj@bf7.md.e2bn.net

Application packs are available from the school's website www.abbeymiddleschool.co.uk

Abbey Middle School practices stringent Safe Guarding Procedures. Closing date 07/01/13 interviews will take place in the same week

NEW EDITOR

Have you got what it takes?

We are looking for a new editor of Luton on Sunday and LDExpress.

The successful candidate will have knowledge of editing newspapers with a hard-hitting edge to them; have a commitment to websites and social media; experience of managing a small team of people and be prepared to get their hands dirty themselves. In return we offer the chance to work for a company committed to giving its readers and communities unrivalled content both on and off-diary.

We offer a competitive salary and 5 weeks holiday a year.

If you have the skills, drive and that certain something to join our editorial team, please email steve.lowe@iliffenews.co.uk for an application form. Closing date Monday 7th January 2013.

It is the company's policy to welcome applications from any individual regardless of ethnic origin, gender, disability, religious belief, sexual orientation or age. All applications will be considered on merit.

onsunday Luton Express / Luton and Dunstable Express

Bedford Borough Council

Bedford Borough Council takes great care to recruit the very best people so that the services we provide to our community are first class. We believe that the best work gets done in an environment that's enjoyable and which values, supports and encourages the development of its employees. In return we expect our employees to work hard and be committed to help us achieve our vision and share our values.

Adult and Community Services
Senior Practitioner - Safeguarding Team

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Bedford Borough Council views safeguarding as a key priority and seeks an experienced Senior Practitioner to screen safeguarding referrals for appropriate action to be taken. The Senior Practitioner provides expert advice to managers and frontline staff on safeguarding cases and procedures, and support the manager, ensuring safeguarding protocol is implemented effectively within Bedford.

Closing date: 4th January 2013.

For full job details visit www.bedford.gov.uk or contact the Recruitment Team on (01234) 228082 or email: Recruitment.Team@bedford.gov.uk

Posts working with children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

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Lincroft & Sharnbrook Teaching School Alliance

Sharnbrook Upper School

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School Direct Initial Teacher Training and Information Evening

The Lincroft & Sharnbrook Teaching School Alliance, together with our training provider The Pilgrim Partnership incorporating The East Northamptonshire Initial Teacher Training College, is offering a new teacher training opportunity through School Direct Training Programme in both the primary and secondary phases to start in September 2013. We are offering training places in schools in North Bedfordshire and East Northamptonshire.

Training places are offered in the following subjects:

- Primary
- Chemistry
- Business Studies
- Religious Studies
- English
- Physics
- Economics
- Social Sciences
- Mathematics
- MFL
- Geography

Participants will be required to pay a training fee of £9,000. Bursaries will be available in some subjects, dependent on degree classification. We are offering a limited number of secondary salaried places in English and Mathematics.

For further information relating to eligibility and access to the application process, please visit the Department of Education website: **http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/teacher-training-options/school-based-training/school-direct.aspx** (On application, please select Sharnbrook Upper School)

We will be holding a **TEACHER RECRUITMENT EVENING** on **TUESDAY 22 JANUARY 2013** from **6.30pm - 8.30pm** at Sharnbrook Upper School for anyone who wishes to find out more about School Direct and the subjects offered. Please contact Lisa Ryder via email to book a place, Lryder@sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk

The Lincroft & Sharnbrook Teaching School Alliance is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Places on these training courses will require enhanced CRB clearance. Additionally you will be required to have passed the TA skills tests before your training can be confirmed. For more information about skills tests, please visit the DfE website.

The Pilgrim Partnership

tenitte

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The position reports to the Financial Director and duties include assisting with - VAT returns, nominal ledger journals, monthly management accounts and other ad hoc tasks. Key skills/experience should include accounts experience to TB, computer literate, spreadsheet knowledge, ability to work on their own.

We require someone 4 hours per day and offer an excellent salary complemented by a range of additional benefits including pension, life assurance, and private medical insurance.

Please send your CV with a covering letter to: Personnel Manager, Yokohama HPT Ltd, Dawson Road, Mount Farm, Bletchley, Milton Keynes. MK1 1QY.

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• be computer literate
• have established book-keeping experience
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• have excellent communication skills
• be able to relate well to all age groups
• be required to organise social events
The role will include some unsocial hours and knowledge of committee work would be an advantage.
Office hours 3 mornings a week of 3 hours each plus minimum 2 evenings per month.
Applications in writing including current C.V. to:
Mrs S Doulton Smith, Kingston House, 106a Bedford Road, Wootton, Beds MK43 9JB
by 11th January 2013

Orchard Academy and Shepherdswell Academy
Executive Principal: Sarah Bennett

emlc academy trust

Finance Manager

Salary range £18,000 - £22,500 FTE
Term time plus INSET plus two weeks in the year
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire
Start date: ASAP

Orchard Academy and Shepherdswell Academy, part of the EMLC Academy Trust, requires a Finance Manager to work across both academies. We are looking for outstanding, committed individual who will manage the financial operation of the academy to support the vision and values of raising the standards of attainment and improving pupil progress for all in our academies. The EMLC Academy Trust vision is to establish world class primary and secondary academies that are centres of excellence for teaching and learning, driven by the moral purpose of making a significant difference to the lives of all our children. We work in partnership to raise expectations and aspirations through empowering learners, their families and the community

This is an excellent opportunity to join our group of academies in Milton Keynes to make a difference to the lives of the pupils in the Springfield area of Milton Keynes.

What we can offer you:

- The opportunity to join a motivated and dynamic groups of staff
- Leadership focused on providing a first class education for all pupils where all children feel successful and most importantly all children are safe, happy and are proud of their achievements
- Academies that are committed to developing pupils who have confidence and a pride in their school
- Commitment to provide professional development opportunities
- A sponsor committed to raise the standards of attainment of all pupils in the academies

We are looking for people who can:

- Ensure the provision of high quality finance and administration services within the school to promote the achievement of high standards
- Ensure the operation of effective purchasing and procurement systems and procedures across the school and to negotiate, manage and monitor contracts, tenders and agreements for the provision of support services.
- Report to the leadership of the academies on a regular basis and ensuring the academies are compliant with the regulations of the Education funding Agency

For further information and an application pack please email: **ruhena.mahmood@emlc.co.uk**

Closing date: 11th January 2013
Interviews: w/c 21st January 2013

Each of the academies within the EMLC Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure will be required for all posts.

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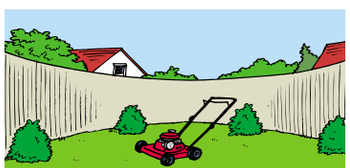

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SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
12/02519/FUL	Erection of a two storey rear extension and change of use of first floor from shop (use class A1) to residential (use class C3) to form 2 x flats at 62-66 Station Road, Woburn Sands
12/02520/FUL	Replacement of existing windows at 70A High Street, Newport Pagnell
12/02551/FUL	Application for a new planning permission to replace an extant planning permission 07/01975/FUL (allowed on appeal) in order to extend the time limit for implementation for the demolition of existing food store, retail units and community centre and erection of replacement food store (Class A1), 4 x non-food (Class A1) retail units, and associated works; including the relocation of the Old Bath House and the facade of the Old Fire Station, along with enhanced highway works and parking provision at Tesco Stores Ltd, McConnell Drive, Wolverton
SECTION 67 & 73	**LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
12/02457/FUL	Change of use from workshop with bathroom and kitchen to replacement en-suite guest room at The Bungalow, Park Gardens, Bletchley
12/02472/LBC	Listed building consent for change of use from workshop with bathroom and kitchen to replacement en-suite guest room at The Bungalow, Park Gardens, Bletchley

NICK FENWICK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PLANNING, ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT

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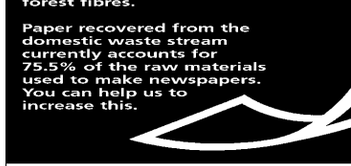

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Amount of Credit	£5,300
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Black, 38,997 miles

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Borrowing Rate	7%
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Silver, 19,656 miles

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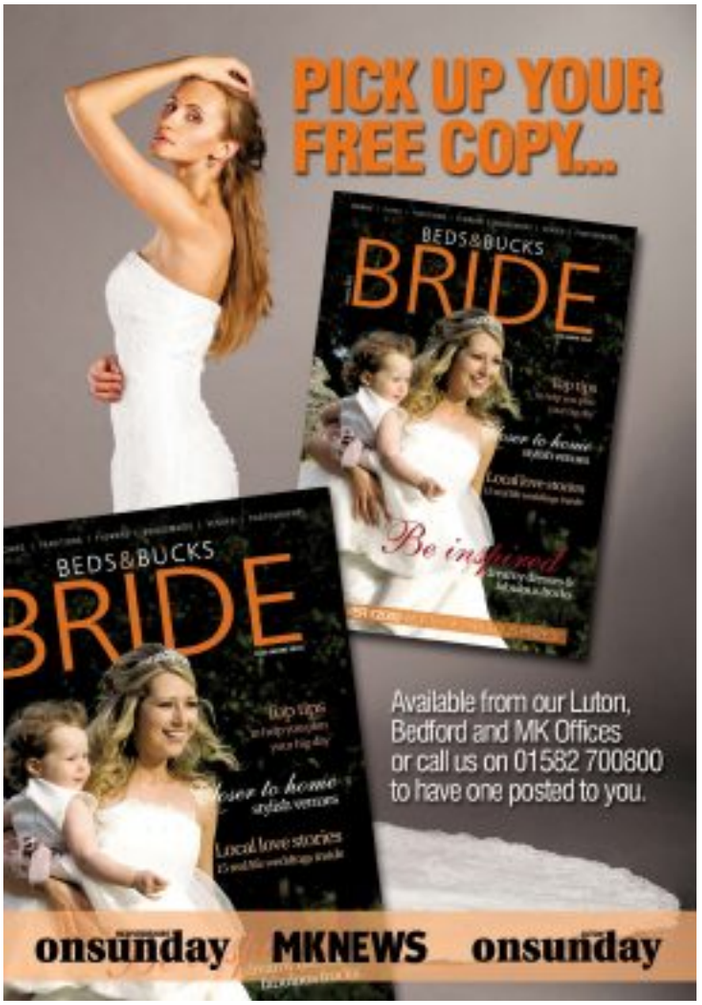

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No goal: Shaun Williams saw this effort ruled out against Hartlepool for pushing, but Dons were comfortable winners

Hartlepool made it difficult for us but we were worthy winners

MK Dons assistant boss MICK HARFORD writes exclusively for MK News every week

WE beat Hartlepool United 1-0 on Saturday and I thought it was an excellent performance.

Obviously we would have liked to have won by more, but Shaun Williams did have a goal disallowed and you quickly learn in football that there are no easy games.

You approach every match like it is going to be a difficult one and even though Hartlepool are at the bottom of the table we went into the match giving them the utmost respect.

They are adrift at the foot of the league but I thought they tried to take the game to us and they played a style of football which was quite attractive which made things difficult.

Overall though, I don't think anyone can say that we didn't deserve to win the game.

Everyone is looking forward now to our top-of-the-table clash at Doncaster Rovers on Saturday.

I know their manager, Dean Saunders, as we used to play together when we were at Derby County in the late 80s.

We played up front together and I enjoyed playing with him.

Most teams played a 4-4-2 formation back then and we had a big man, little man combination together.

Dean was always lively and very sharp, and he was a natural goalscorer, as well as being a funny lad who thinks of himself as a bit of a comedian.

He went on to play for Liverpool and of course had success for his country as well.

I want to beat his team on Saturday, and I have watched Doncaster two or three times already this season.

I saw them when they beat Oldham 1-0 with a late goal at the end of last month, and we also had them watched on Saturday when they lost 4-1 at home to Coventry.

Dean has been doing well with his coaching but we have worked on their strengths and weaknesses.

The Keepmoat Stadium is a nice new ground which I've been to a few times - it's a nice place to go and we will enjoy playing there.

All of the players were given a few days off after the Hartlepool game and they didn't return to training until this morning (Wednesday).

We've got a heavy period coming up with three games in a week, starting with Doncaster and continuing with our home games against Walsall and Coventry.

We are also still in the FA Cup so have a game at Sheffield Wednesday after the New Year's Day trip to Notts County, so it's important to give everybody a breather.

They were able to do their Christmas shopping, see their families and get all of that stuff out of the way before coming back to focus on the Doncaster match.

Myself, Karl Robinson, Alex Rae and other members of the backroom staff had a quiet evening out to celebrate Christmas and we had a good laugh, but if I'm honest I'm not sure if the players had a Christmas party themselves.

The players' parties were always fun during my day.

We obviously had to have them as far away from the next match as possible, but in days gone by we did have a good time.

Fancy dress was often a part of it and I remember seeing Steve Foster, who I played with at Luton, dressed up as a fairy, which was quite funny as he was supposed to be a hard man.

Those sort of nights were always great for camaraderie and team spirit but when you returned to training it was time to work hard again and get it out of your system as soon as possible.

Doumbe will fight for spot

MATHIAS Kouo-Doumbe has admitted that the past few weeks have been 'frustrating' but the defender is now keen to battle for his place in the Dons side.

The Frenchman has struggled to hold down a place in Karl Robinson's team this term as Shaun Williams and Antony Kay have formed a solid partnership in the centre of the defence and summer signing Jon Otsemobor has made the right-back position his own.

However, the 33-year-old former Paris St Germain man was given a chance on the flank in Saturday's 1-0 victory over Hartlepool thanks to Otsemobor's groin injury and he is now hoping for a regular run in the side ahead of Christmas.

"It's been a bit frustrating," he said. "It hasn't been a good time but you have to get ready for your opportunity and when you do play you have to play well.

"I felt a bit rusty against Hartlepool but overall I think that my performance was quite good."

When asked by MK SPORT if he prefers playing at full-back or in the centre, the versatile defender said that he 'wasn't too sure any more."

"I really enjoy playing at right back but by trade I'm more of a centre half," he said.

"There's more running at right back but I don't mind that as I try to get forward as much as possible."

Doumbe said that the squad were looking forward to the hectic festive schedule.

"It's important that we stay connected to the top two during this period," he said. "It's always nice to play a lot of games."

FIXTURES

DEC 22 DONCASTER (A)
DEC 26 WALSALL (H)
DEC 29 COVENTRY (H)
JAN 1 NOTTS COUNTY (A)
JAN 5 SHEFF WED (FAC) (A)

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

		Home					Away						
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Tranmere Rovers	22	5	4	2	20	10	6	4	1	18	8	20	41
Brentford	22	8	2	1	21	11	3	6	2	12	11	11	41
Sheffield United	22	5	6	0	18	10	5	4	2	11	8	11	40
Doncaster	22	5	1	5	13	14	7	3	1	18	7	10	40
MK Dons	22	8	2	1	17	5	3	4	4	14	12	14	39
Stevenage	22	3	5	3	15	19	7	2	2	15	10	1	37
Swindon Town	22	4	4	3	16	8	6	2	3	16	10	14	36
Notts County	22	4	2	5	15	14	5	6	0	18	8	11	35
Bournemouth	22	5	5	1	19	11	4	3	4	18	22	4	35
Crawley Town	22	5	3	3	19	17	5	2	4	12	14	0	35
Crewe Alexandra	22	6	2	3	13	10	3	4	4	15	18	0	33
Leyton Orient	22	5	0	6	11	12	5	1	5	14	14	-1	31
Coventry City	22	3	4	4	18	15	5	2	4	19	14	8	30
Yeovil Town	22	4	2	5	12	14	5	1	5	20	19	-1	30
Preston N	22	3	5	3	16	11	4	3	4	16	16	5	29
Oldham Athletic	22	3	3	5	11	12	4	2	5	11	14	-4	26
Colchester	22	4	3	4	14	14	2	2	7	9	20	-11	23
Walsall	22	2	4	5	14	21	3	4	4	11	16	-12	23
Carlisle United	22	2	2	7	14	28	4	3	4	14	15	-15	23
Shrewsbury	22	5	3	3	15	12	0	4	7	10	18	-5	22
Portsmouth	22	3	2	6	12	13	2	4	5	15	20	-6	21
Scunthorpe	22	1	3	7	11	23	4	2	5	13	17	-16	20
Bury	22	2	4	5	10	16	2	3	6	13	20	-13	19
Hartlepool	22	1	3	7	8	19	0	3	8	7	21	-25	9

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ICE HOCKEY

Lightning down Jets

Winner: Grant McPherson sealed a 5-4 victory

MK LIGHTNING only had won game this weekend but they made it count by beating Slough Jets 5-4 in the English Premier League (EPL) at Planet Ice.

It was Slough who pinched the last qualifying spot in the EPL Cup from under Lightning's noses last week, but Nick Poole's side were able to put that disappointment behind them on Sunday with an important victory.

A Grant McPherson strike with seven minutes left to play finally settled a match where the lead changed on more than one occasion.

Six of the goals came in the final period of the match though, setting up an exciting conclusion after the opening two had been tamer affairs.

It was goalless after the first, but former Lightning man Muzzy Wales, who moved to Slough from Milton Keynes, put the Berkshire side ahead on the powerplay in the second.

There were 35 minutes on the clock when Lightning finally responded through Blaz Emersic, who tucked home a Lewis Christie pass, but there was then a blow when summer signing Nicky Chinn was thrown out of the game after being seen to land a punch on the rear of Greg Pick's helmet.

He also received a misconduct penalty but despite being shorthanded, Kamil Tvrdek released skipper Adam Carr to hand Lightning the lead.

Jets struck twice in quick succession at the start of the third period through Darius Pliskauskas and Slava Koulikov to wrestle back the lead, but Great Britain forward Leigh Jamieson grabbed a double of his own for Lightning to put the city skaters 4-3 in front.

Alex Barker set up Dan Davies to level for Slough again, a soft goal from MK's point of view, but Scot McPherson was able to have the final say in the topsy turvy contest.

He was able to fire home from the right hand side while Lightning were on the powerplay with 53 minutes on the clock.

""It was an ugly win but I'm pleased with taking two points into the Xmas break," player coach Nick Poole, pictured, said.

Lightning are fourth and next host Bracknell on December 27.

RUGBY UNION

Nine on the spin for MK

Fine boot: Milton Keynes have gone nine games unbeaten.

MILTON Keynes claimed a 34-27 bonus point win at Wallingford to stretch their winning run in the league to nine matches.

City have promotion from the Southern Counties North firmly in their sights and are only three points behind leaders Reading Abbey in third place.

Their fine winning streak comes after they lost their first two matches of the season.

They had to cope with a lengthy game delay and a change of pitch before they could get the job done at Wallingford though, as after Phil Powell had opened the scoring for MK with a penalty, Simon Kockelberch suffered a broken arm under a pile of bodies after he had stormed over for an MK try.

After a 30 minute delay waiting for an ambulance, the referee moved the match to Wallingford's smaller pitch and MK continued to have the better of the half.

Stuart Tomkinson added a typical forward's try and although Powell missed the conversion, the lead was stretched to 17-5. Both sides then added penalties to make it 20-8 to MK at half-time.

City struggled in the second half as they were unable to get their wingers into their stride, and Wallingford quickly cut the gap to five points with a converted try.

MK always responded to home scores though, firstly when Dan Rolfe's try was converted by Powell.

Wallingford hit back again with a penalty try but any hopes of a nightmare finish were put to rest when Gino Genova went over to give the visitors breathing space once more.

The home side had the last word with another try in the dying stages but MK hung on to win a game which was overshadowed by Kockelberch's injury.

"The only good thing to come out of this game is the win and a four try bonus point," chairman John Silk said. "Let's hope we can keep the winning run going."

Elsewhere in the league there was an afternoon to forget for Olney who lost 31-0 to second-placed Grove with four key players missing from their side.

This was the first time this season that Olney have failed to score a point and they are now fifth.

In the South West 1 East Bletchley went down 17-5 at home to Reading.

HOCKEY

Ladies slip to defeat before the festive break

MILTON Keynes Ladies' 1sts slipped to a 4-1 defeat at Wallingford in their last league game before the Christmas break.

Things got off to a poor start for the city side who fell behind after just a minute thanks to a goal which was slotted past MK's left midfield player, Chrissy Little, who was making her debut in goal.

The visitors created chances to hit back but they were unable to convert them and it wasn't long before Wallingford doubled their advantage with a second goal.

Some driving runs from Lou Reynolds and Gemma Meredith created more chances for Milton Keynes but they could not find that breakthrough and Wallingford added a third before half-time.

In the second half Lindsay Kettleborough worked tirelessly in midfield to link defence and attack and MK's persistence was rewarded when they finally found the net.

A quick side line ball from Sophie Reynolds found player of the match Alice Vigor, at the top of the circle , and she calmly rounded two defenders and then fired the ball home past the keeper.

It was a deserved strike but Wallingford put the visiting defence under pressure in the closing stages, forcing Little into some good saves.

A fourth goal was fired past her at the death though, leaving MK seventh in the South League Division 3A.

They will be hoping to move up the table when the season resumes on January 12 with a clash against Eastcote.

Meanwhile, goals from Gemma Little and Vikki Alexander were not enough for the 2nds who lost 4-2 to Oxford Hawks 3rds, and the 3rds, who had no goalkeeper available to them, were beaten 4-0 by Reading 3rds.

The Mens' 1sts and 2nds were not in action, but the 3rds claimed their maiden away win of the season with a 5-2 success at Tring 1sts.

SPORTSSHORTS

ATHLETICS

THE popular Watchless Wolverton five mile race was held on Thursday and won by Peter O'Sullivan.

Thirty-one athletes contested the race, which features unusual rules, around the original Wolverton circuit.

Runners aim to complete the course in a time which is as close as possible to what they predicted, without the use of a watch.

O'Sullivan was the best of four finishers who came within ten seconds of their targets, after he crossed the line just three seconds faster than the 45 minutes he expected. Jeremy Vick, who ran 29m 37s, and Andy Sutton, who finished in 32m 53s, were both joint second after guessing seven seconds out.

Fourth placed Kevin Church missed his mark by nine seconds and in fifth place George Hapeshi was 13 seconds adrift.

Meanwhile, MK Athletic Club's Charlotte Harris was the second senior finish home at the Bicester 10k, in 40m, 38s.

SQUASH

JOSH Flux was the winner of a squash tournament organised by Two Mile Ash school.

Jack Davies was second and Max Davies was third.

Meanwhile, 16-year-old city player Joe Elfasi of Oakgrove School was seeded number one in the Oxford U17 tournament at the Thame Squash Club. He duly came through to beat the number two seed Anthony Rogal 11-2, 11-4, 11-6 in the final.

MKSPORT

Wednesday, December 19, 2012 | Issue number: 537 | www.mk-news.co.uk | £1 where sold

Lightning go into Christmas with victory

- page 51

I've been Ryan's biggest critic this year says boss

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

KARL Robinson has hailed Ryan Lowe's newly discovered confidence after the striker found the net for the third time in as many League One games.

The Dons forward evaded the offside trap and buried a fine finish past Hartlepool keeper Scott Flinders to grab the only goal of the game in Saturday's victory over the League One strugglers.

Now, he is aiming to kick on as Dons enter the crucial Christmas period in fourth place, just two points adrift of leaders Tranmere.

Much was expected of the striker after his summer switch from Sheffield Wednesday but the 34-year-old, who enjoyed a prolific spell at Bury before his move to Hillsborough, made a slow start to life at stadiummk.

He grabbed his first for the club in the 2-0 victory over Carlisle on September 1 but despite regular appearances he then had to wait until the 1-0 win over Leyton Orient on November 6 to find the net again.

The dry spell appears to be at an end now though as Lowe has capped some fine recent performances with the goals both he and his manager have craved.

His recent purple patch has seen goals against Colchester and Brentford, as well as Saturday's winner over Pools.

"He's had his knocks this year and he's had his criticism, most of all from me," Dons manager Robinson said.

"I'm his biggest critic, and it's important for him to accept it and adapt his game, move on and get on with it. We've had our debates and arguments."

It is an ideal time to hit form for Lowe who now faces increased competition up front in the form of recent loan arrivals Patrick Bamford and Ibra Sekajja.

Chelsea man Bamford, who impressed against Colchester in his only game for the club so far, would likely have kept Lowe out of the side during his recent run had he not picked up a hamstring injury.

Robinson also has Charlie MacDonald and Alan Smith as strike options and Jabo Ibehre is due to return from his loan spell at Colchester, although this deal, due to expire on December 27, could yet be extended.

"What Ryan is doing now is he's playing his football," Robinson said.

"He looks free and he looks like he's always going to score.

"He feels confident in front of goal and the biggest thing for me against Hartlepool is how hard he worked.

"He almost ran himself into the ground. Hopefully he's in a run of goals that will last for a while."

Lowe had been linked with a loan move away from stadiummk when he was struggling to find the target.

In October, Tranmere Rovers boss Ronnie Moore claimed that he was close to landing him, a statement which was denied by Robinson, and Rotherham United were also reportedly close to a deal.

Dons have a tough test on Saturday when they travel to fellow promotion contenders Doncaster Rovers, who are third in League One with just one more point to their name.

Dean Saunders' side were beaten 4-1 by Coventry this weekend.

Fine form: Karl Robinson has backed Ryan Lowe to shine after the striker made it three goals from three League One games.

Stannard targets spot in the Tour de France after year to remember

OLYMPIC cyclist Ian Stannard hasn't ruled out ridng in the Tour de France next year after a 2012 to remember.

The 25-year-old former Team Keynes rider captured the British Road Race title during a fantastic year which has also seen him compete at the World Championships in Limburg and at the London Olympics.

"Looking back on 2012, it's been a good season," he said.

"I've enjoyed the racing throughout and feel I've progressed as a rider, both in terms of my strength and tactical nous.

"I think there's still a lot more to come though and I want to step it up again next year.

"I do have goals in 2013 but the most important thing is to ride my bike, have fun and enjoy it, and hopefully that can have the knock-on effect of inspiring people to do the same.

"It would be great to ride another Grand Tour, and maybe even the Tour de France.

"That's all to be decided in the future though so I'm not really thinking about it at this point."

Known as a workhorse who will give everything for his team-mates, Team Sky rider Stannard, who grew up in the city, has earned himself an army of fans.

He briefly led this year's World Road Race while wearing the national jersey picked up for his British win, and he put in a huge effort in the unsuccessful attempt to propel Mark Cavendish to a gold medal in the Olympic road race.

Now, he is preparing for the Tour Down Under which takes place between January 20-27.

Stannard will race in Australia along side team-mates Edvald Boasson Hagen, Chris Sutton, Mathew Hayman, Bernhard Eisel, Luke Rowe and Geraint Thomas at the six-stage Adelaide based event.

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Where to find us:

Kiss Gyms Milton Keynes
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